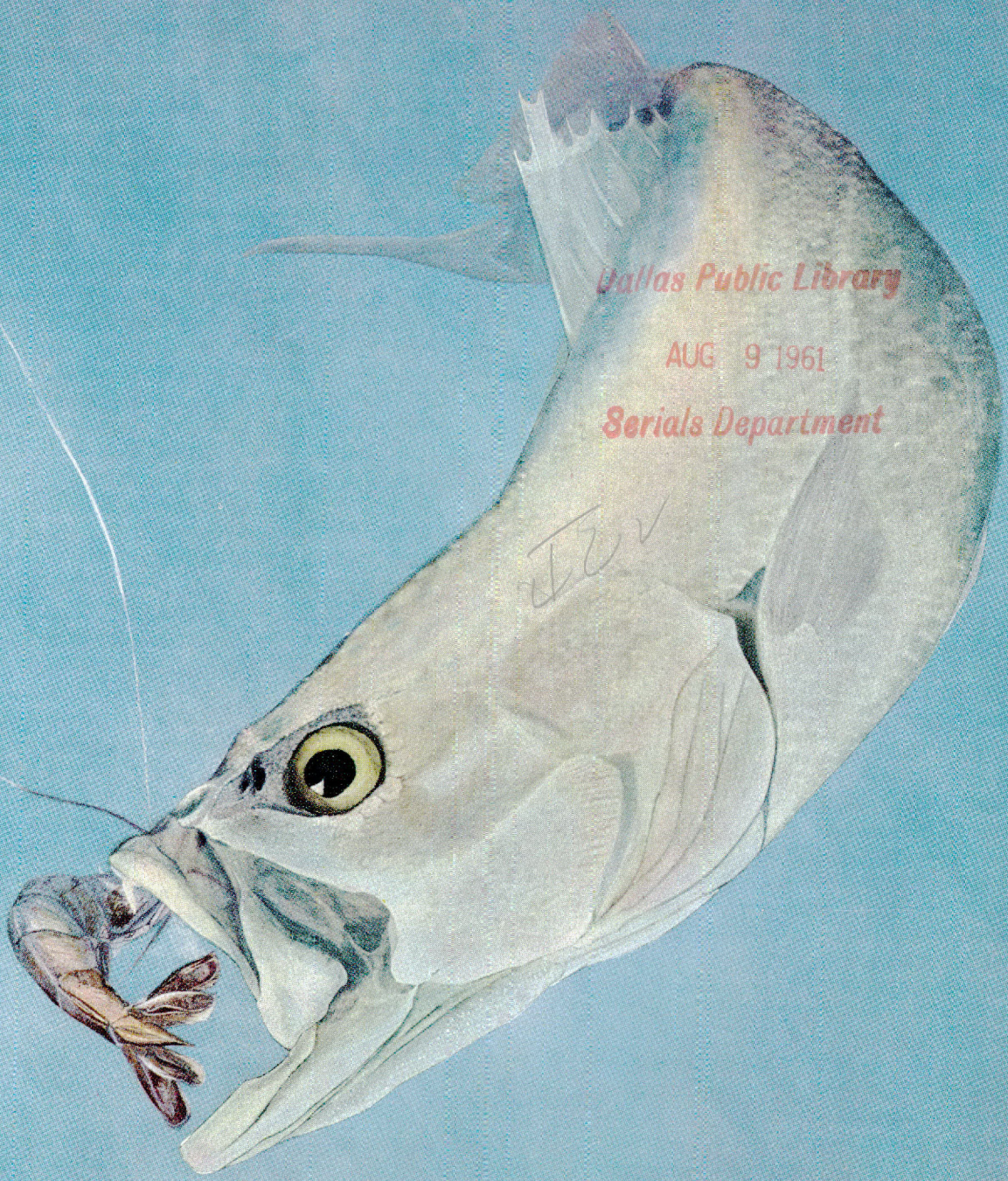


Texas Game and Fish

AUGUST 1961 20 CENTS



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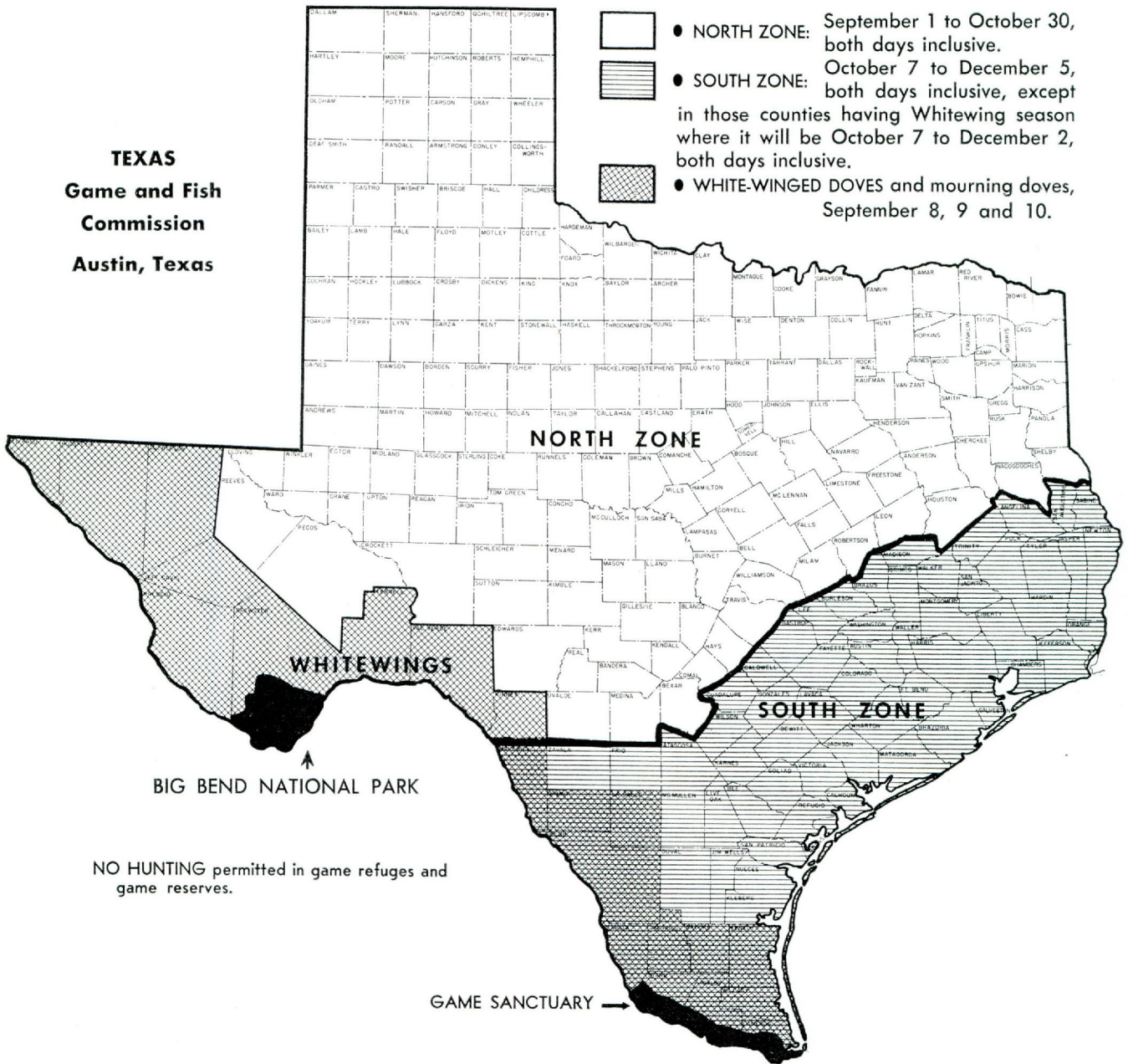
MOURNING DOVE – WHITE-WINGED DOVE Open Seasons 1961

MOURNING DOVES: Daily bag limit—15. Possession limit—not to exceed 30.

WHITE-WINGED DOVES: Daily bag limit—10. Possession limit—10.

NOTE: When both mourning doves and white-winged doves are possessed—Possession limit—30, in the aggregate, and not more than 10 may be white-winged doves.

TEXAS
Game and Fish
Commission
Austin, Texas

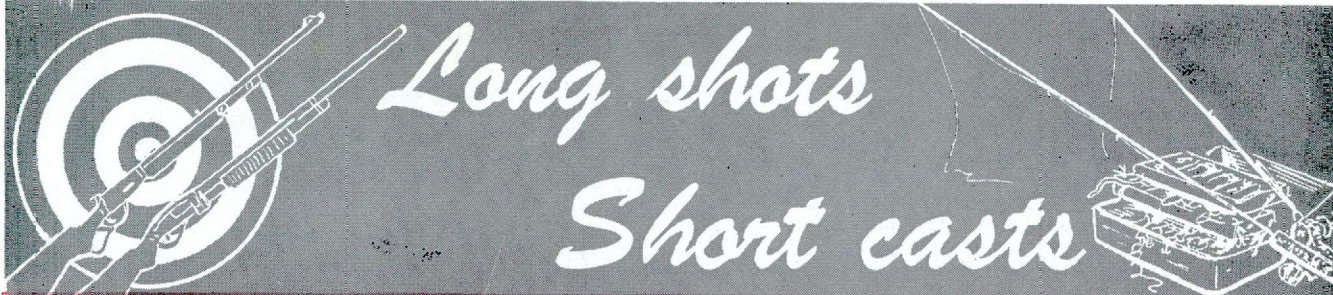


NO HUNTING permitted in game refuges and game reserves.

SPECIAL NOTE: Unlawful to take white-winged doves or chachalacas South of U.S. Highway 83, formerly State Highway 4, in southern tip of Texas, marked on map as "Game Sanctuary," and the Big Bend National Park in Brewster County.

SHOTGUNS: Must be plugged permanently to three-shell capacity, may not be larger than 10 gauge. Hunting doves with rifles prohibited.

SHOOTING HOURS: Mourning doves, 12 noon to sunset—except in areas having white-wing season, where the shooting hours will be from 2 p.m. to sunset on September 8, 9 and 10 (consecutive days) only. White-winged doves, in season, 2 p.m. to sunset.



THE GAME'S UP: Widespread arrests exposing a massive wildlife racket were made recently by U.S. and state conservation officers, involving the illegal possession, transportation and sale of migratory waterfowl and resident game. The individuals charged were actively engaged in hunting, killing and trapping waterfowl and game for the market. This is the greatest roundup of market hunters and collaborators in the history of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ALL AT THEIR FINGERTIPS: The first national center containing lore and learning of conservation has been established by the Denver Library Commission. In this new center, conservation leaders of tomorrow will be able to review, in one location, the records of campaigns that resulted in national forests, national parks, soil conservation programs, wildlife protection and management, and many related subjects. More than 50 national conservation leaders have endorsed the center, and many collections of significant materials already have been pledged.

DEER DECREE: House Bill 846 is now law, authorizing transportation of white-tailed deer from over-populated areas to other sections of the state for restocking and harvesting. The program was developed by the Game and Fish Commission, Sportsmen's Clubs of Texas, and interested landowners.

SAFETY FOR SIX CENTS: A four-page pamphlet has been issued by the National Safety Council, entitled "Hook and Line Fishing," dealing with safe handling of fishing hooks, wading, and boating. Subjects include proper caution in casting to avoid other fishermen, landing the fish, and removing the hook, and first-aid tips. Hazardous boat practices are described as fast stops and starts, sharp turns, and high-speed operation. To obtain a copy, send six cents to National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Ill.

AT THE READY: A snow shortage this winter in parts of the West may mean another bad forest fire season. Not enough snow results in dry ground and a low water level. Already a larger number of fires have been reported than usual for this time of year. The Forest Service is setting up a seasonal office at Salt Lake City, Utah, to keep men and equipment flowing quickly and easily from one part of the country to another as needed. This office will be in operation between July 1 and Sept. 15, and will keep its fingers on the pulse of every firefighting unit in the National Forests of the West.

FISHING FEVER: During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959, 20 million fishermen in 50 states spent \$50,374,832 for 22,861,880 fishing licenses, tags, permits, and stamps required by state fish and game departments, to fish legally for sport and recreation.

IT PAYS TO FERTILIZE: Fertilized ponds will produce 150 to 200 pounds of edible fish per year per surface acre compared to about 35 pounds for unfertilized ponds. Fertilization should be initiated in March and continued until frost in the fall. Applications of 100 pounds of 8-8-2 per surface acre twice a month are recommended. A white disc held 18 inches below the surface of the water should not be visible if there is an adequate presence of microscopic plant and animal life. Details may be obtained from state wildlife agencies.

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.

AUGUST, 1961

Vol. XIX, No. 8

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TEXAS GAME AND FISH is published monthly by the Texas Game and Fish Commission. Subscription price \$2 per year, \$3 for 2 years, and \$5 for 5 years. Single copies of current issue 20 cents each.

Subscriptions to TEXAS GAME AND FISH are available from the Austin offices, and branch offices. Checks and money orders should be made payable to STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION, Editorial and Advertising Offices, Walton Building, Austin, Texas. Second class postage paid at Austin, Texas.

Postmaster: If undeliverable, please notify TEXAS GAME AND FISH on form 3578-P at the Walton Building, Austin, Texas.

TEXAS GAME AND FISH invites republication of material provided proper credit is given, since the articles and other data comprise factual reports on wild-life and other phases of conservation.

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The Cover



Most of our cover paintings are products of many hours of research and study. This month's cover by Henry Compton, marine biologist at Rockport, is no different. Compton spent some time off the coast of Mexico a few years back doing underwater studies of fish life. Since joining the Commission he has worked very closely with marine fish, including the sand trout, *Cynoscion nothus*, or silver weakfish as it is sometimes called.

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Every man needs

A Good Fishing Rod

by **HOWARD D. DODGEN**
Executive Secretary
Game and Fish Commission

SOMEWHERE ALONG the line a wise man said that every man is entitled to one good dog and one good woman in a life time. To that should be added a fishing rod!

We begin our fishing usually with a willow pole cut from the bank of the creek. That is followed closely by a cane pole bought from the local tackle dealer. Then before long there comes an assortment of rods, usually equipped with reels.

Today the evolution is slightly faster, thanks to the development of the spin cast reel, with matching glass rods that sell at a reasonable figure.

But there always is a need in the life of every man for one good rod. There is a great difference of opinion between men as to what constitutes a good rod. For instance one of the best fishermen I have ever seen, swears by a 5½ foot medium action rod. He says anything else is just for the birds. He has effectively developed dexterity with his favorite rod and his accuracy is unequalled.

Then there is another good fisherman I know who uses a 6½ foot extra light action rod and a spinning reel. He can knock a dragonfly off a floating chip at distances beyond the cast of most men. He's just simply good.

Between and even beyond these two extremes there are other fishermen who have their favorite rods in length, weight and action. Each has his own particular reasons for liking

his equipment. Mainly, however, they "fit" the individual and he has learned to use them.

The real purist, however, is the fly fisherman. The fellow who wades and casts bugs at unsuspecting bass, crappie and bream, wants his rod just right. In fact, this fellow right now has just about fully accepted the glass rod as a suitable substitute for bamboo. Some of the die-hards still insist on the split bamboo, but most of them finally have succumbed to the use of glass rods.

Again there is a wide divergence in the length and action. Generally the 8-foot rod seems to have preference, although there are others who don't want a rod over 7 feet, and many who like to use a 9-foot fly rod.

A good rod doesn't come cheap. (For that matter neither does a good dog or a good woman.) At that, however, they are cheaper—rods, that is—now than when we used to swear by the split bamboo. A top rod of that material usually cost \$50 or better. Now you can buy a fine glass rod for about half that figure or a pretty good one for \$20.

Thus times have changed, but not the need of a good rod. If you don't have one, put it on your next birthday want list. But get a good rod, one that you will be really proud to show your friends. Teach it tricks as you would your dog. You'll be surprised at the response of a good rod, even in the hands of a dub.

SALTWATER SANDIES

By HENRY COMPTON

Marine Biologist



THE SAND TROUT, a cousin of the famous speckled trout that delights fishermen in Texas bays, has usually been considered generally too small to be more than a minor addition to a string of specks, redfish, and drum. However, in the last year or so there have been some very nice sand trout caught around Oso Pier on south Ocean Drive in Corpus Christi. In March of this year, Stormy Jensen, a former navy chief, caught one that weighed in at 4¾ pounds. This is some sandy when you consider that most of them barely break the one pound mark.

And this wasn't a one-time occurrence. Stormy and other sand trout enthusiasts have been sacking up strings of two and three pounders regularly throughout the spring and summer. The owner of Oso Pier, Jack Maddux, has been weighing a number of large sandies for surprised fishermen.

There are a couple or three reasons why large sandies haven't been reported so much in the past, and maybe why they haven't been caught so much. For one thing there are fewer sand trout in the bays than speckled trout. Most people fish for the larger specks. Since sandies like a different bottom and are caught by a slightly different fishing method, the speck fishermen just aren't in the right place with the right gear for

the large sandies.

Specks like the shallow, grassy flats and oyster and worm reefs in the bays and Laguna. Sandies like the same bottom that the gafftop prefers—sand—especially a deep, sandy hole in the bay or the edge of a sand bar in 10 or 12 feet of water.

Sandies won't take a plug or spoon as readily as a speck nor bite live shrimp under a cork as often. Sand trout like fresh dead bait, shrimp or some good cut bait like mullet or pinfish, fished on the bottom. This is about the same setup used to catch gafftop. In fact, where you're catching sandies you'll probably also be catching gafftop. With a string of nice sand trout and gafftop you've had some real fishing and have some fine eating ahead.

There has been some speculation by well educated fishermen like Roy Swann, Outdoor Editor of the *Corpus Christi Caller Times*, as to whether or not the big sand trout that are caught in the bays come from the Gulf of Mexico.

In Texas there are two species of white sea trout or weakfish. One species, the silver or Gulf sand trout, *Cynoscion nothus*, is found in the Gulf of Mexico out to fairly great depths. This species is small with no recordings of over 9 or 10 inches and at times is caught in abundance as scrap fish along with the shrimp of the commercial trawlers. The Gulf sand trout occasionally migrates into the bays.

The other species is the bay sand trout, *Cynoscion arenarius*, that lives

mainly in the bays, spawns in the Gulf near the passes, and in winter when the bay gets cold migrates to the shallow inshore Gulf. When reports of large sand trout come in from the artificial snapper reef and oil platforms off Port Aransas, it is nearly certain to be the bay sand trout.

These two species of white trout are so similar in appearance that the average fisherman wouldn't notice the difference. A couple of characteristics separate them partially. The Gulf sand trout has yellower fins and the supporting rays of the fins are very brittle. In the Gulf all of the small trout come up in the trawls with their fins much broken and frayed.

There is one sure way to tell them apart, and if you care to check for your own information it isn't difficult. Just count the fin rays in the anal fin back near the tail on the bottom side of the fish. The bay sand trout has 11 of these rays; the Gulf sand trout has 9.

Actually if you catch a sandy in the bay it is probably the larger bay species and if you catch a sandy in the Gulf that runs over a pound or so it is also the bay species. The small Gulf species is unimportant to the sportsfisherman although someday the great numbers of them caught in the Gulf may be utilized as a scrap fish resource to the commercial shrimpers.

It would be interesting to receive any reports of large sand trout caught by fishermen along the coast. It would be a pleasure to find out if this beautiful and hard-fighting fish is really beginning to run larger and has a possibility of assuming a more important place in the salt water sports fishery. **



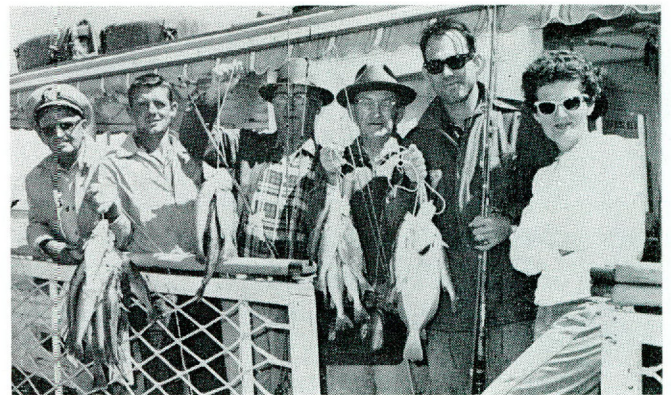
It isn't unusual to catch drum, croakers and flounder when fishing for sand trout.



These fishermen had good luck. Sand trout are hard to beat when taken right out of the water and dropped into a skillet.



Photos by Roy Swann



The Story of the GROUND WATER TABLE

By JAY N. "DING" DARLING
Founder and First President
National Wildlife Federation

Reprinted from
Audubon Nature Bulletin



ASK ANYONE to name the three things he would rather have than anything else in the world, the first would probably be riches and the other two, more riches, which shows how little man knows what's good for him. If he had no air he would die in a few seconds, if he had no water he would die of thirst in a few days, and if there were no land he could have no food and would slowly die of starvation. But all three of these working together in the sunshine produce everything the richest man in the world can possess: food, clothing, forests, and all the living creatures on earth. Leave out any one of the three and the other two are powerless to keep us alive.

This is the story of water and how man, by his carelessness, is in danger of losing one of the most important sources of supply on which he and all life depends; namely, the ground water storage, commonly called the "water table."

Ordinarily, when we think of the part water plays in our lives we think first of rivers, lakes, and oceans and perhaps rain and the city water works. Few ever think of the vast amount of underground moisture stored away

deep in the soil which scientists call "the most instantaneous and effective of all fresh water reservoirs." The reason we never think of it is because it is invisible and hardly anyone ever sees it except perhaps at the bottom of a well. Probably the simplest way to define the "Ground Water Table" is to say it is the underground water supply to which people dig when they need a well. Only those who have ever had to dig a well with a spade and shovel know how important it is to have that water table not too far down in the ground.

In earlier days, before cities and towns had public water works and started piping water to their homes, most people had their own wells, or patronized the town pump. One of the first things the early pioneers always looked for before choosing a piece of farm land or establishing a settlement was to see how deep down in the earth they would have to dig to get water. Many a large city in the United States owes its beginning to the fact that the ground water table could be easily reached without too much digging by hand with the spade and shovel. It never seemed to have occurred to anyone at

• Continued next Page

that time that this same underground water supply might have other very important influences on their lives, climate, vegetation and wildlife.

It was a long time after that (let's say about fifty years) that things began to happen which jogged everyone's memory about the forgotten underground water table. Farmers who still depended on their old dug wells for their water supply found their well gone dry.

Springs which used to flow from the ground at the bottom of a hill in the pasture and furnish fresh water for the cattle and horses, stopped flowing altogether, except in very wet weather.

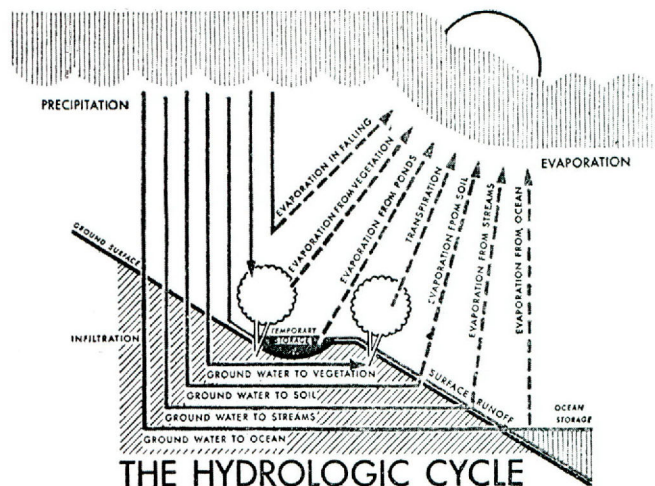
Little creeks and rivers which used to have plenty of water in them the year 'round, were dried up in the summertime instead of furnishing a good place to go fishing and swimming. Of course, the fish that had once lived in the rivers and creeks had no place to go and wait until the water came back when the fall rains came, so they died and there weren't any parent fishes to raise new families of little fish to take their place when they were gone.

When the springs also went dry the water in the creeks ceased to flow in the summer, the birds and fur-bearing animals—particularly those that live near water, like the beaver, mink, marten, muskrat, and the ducks, sandpipers and killdeer—had to move away in search of new homes where water and food supplies had not disappeared so mysteriously. Since new living quarters not already occupied were hard to find the wildlife forced out by a water shortage simply disappeared; there was no increase in neighboring areas.

And something else very important seemed to be wrong. Everyone could remember when the summer farm crops and pastures in the earlier days could go without much rain for several weeks without being completely destroyed. Now they could no longer stand a drought nearly so well. Some years the crops were so poor it hardly paid to harvest the grain. The cattle lacked water and the pastures burned up from lack of moisture, and even the local summer showers that used to fill the cisterns seemed to have joined the general conspiracy and became less and less frequent.

All these changes had come about so gradually that no one tried to discover the reasons, until conditions got worse and worse and finally so bad that something had to be done about it or else the people, like the birds and animals, would have to move away. In some sections of the west many of them did, and lost their farms. Land became unsaleable where conditions were very bad. Most everyone said it was all because the climate had changed and there wasn't enough rain anymore. No one—at least, not many—thought that the ground water table could have anything to do with the changed conditions.

Then a group of scientists who started to study the situation and its causes, remembered the old water table which used to be near the surface of the ground, sometimes not more than 12 or 15 feet deep on the average. That same water table was now much lower, sometimes twice its original depth, and in one state in the middle west, it had fallen to 59 feet, where once it had been only 8 to 10 feet below the surface of the ground. Nearly everywhere in the United States the water table had



fallen considerably since the days of the pioneers.

Small wonder that the farmers' wells had gone dry. And because natural springs were only places where the underground water table came so near the surface that it bubbled forth out of the ground, naturally the springs went dry too when the water table dropped. And if the springs no longer flowed into the little creeks and from the creeks into the rivers, it was easy to see why the streams dried up (or nearly so) in mid-summer. And if there was less water on the ground, naturally the air became drier from lack of evaporation.

The same group of scientists reasoned that if the old water table was double the distance from the surface, and roots had to be twice as long to reach the moisture, it was to be expected that the plants might get twice as thirsty in dry seasons. Of course, corn, oats, and wheat have very shallow roots and no one thought that they ever depended directly for their moisture on their roots reaching the water table; yet in the neighboring fields where the native deep-rooted vegetation had never been disturbed, the plants remained green long after the short-rooted domestic crops had perished from the drought.

Many theories were explored and not all of the supposed causes have yet been sufficiently proved to satisfy the scientific investigators. There are, however, some established facts which can be given that are known to have played a large part in lowering the water table. The most important ones are as follows:

The underground water table gets its supply from only one source and that is the moisture which falls on the surface of the land in rain or melted snows. If the water from rains or melted snow runs off the surface of the land too fast it does not have a chance to soak into the ground. Anything that speeds the "run-off" therefore, robs the underground water table of its normal supply. This moisture must make its way slowly down into the soil until it comes to a stratum of rock or impervious clay and can go no farther. There it is held in storage for the many uses which nature requires. As moisture thus absorbed increases in quantity, the surface of the water table rises just as the surface of the water rises in a tub when more water is added. If it falls it is a sign that the new supply of moisture has for some reason been prevented from working its way down through the soil.

At first, it was thought that the falling water table had been caused by a decrease in the general rainfall,

which of course would have been a very simple explanation. But examination of records over a period of several wet years showed that the water table had continued to fall even in periods of heavy rainfall and only a little less rapidly than in a dry cycle of years.

There was a time not many years ago when rains and melting snows were held on the surface of the land in marshes, ponds and shallow lakes. In those pools the water stayed often the year 'round and had plenty of time to soak into the soil and replenish the water table.

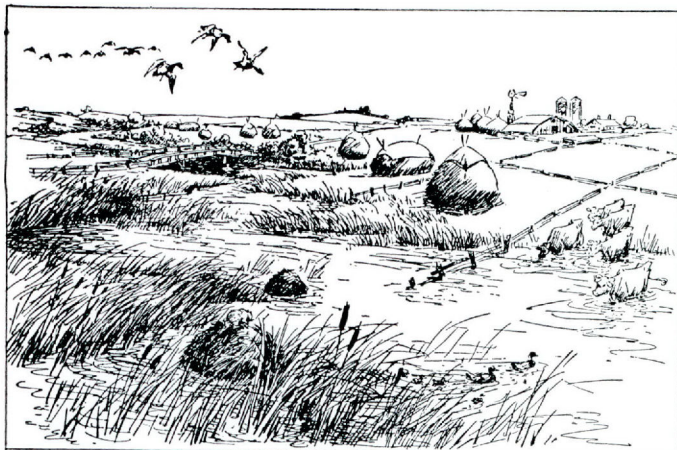
Millions of acres of these marshes and sloughs, and even some of the shallow lakes, have been drained off through man-made drainage ditches in order to make more dry land for farming. That is one thing we know lowered the water table.

Forests and underbrush, with their thick carpet of old leaves and decaying logs and deep matted roots, once occupied much more of the land than now, and rain and snow falling in the great natural forests was held in the spongy blanket of vegetation until the moisture slowly seeped down into the ground to join the underground water supply. When we cleared the forests and underbrush from the land we destroyed another of nature's methods of retarding the run-off of surface waters. The water was gone before it had time to soak into the ground.

Our prairies and meadows, when our pioneers first saw them, were waist high with a heavy growth of native grasses which caught the snows and rains and held the water in their matted roots almost as effectively as the forests. When we moved those fields or plowed them for planting, or when our sheep and cattle grazed them down close to the ground, they no longer held back the moisture until it had time to seep into the earth.

Now, just as though lowering the ground water table was not enough of a calamity in itself to convict man of criminal carelessness, he seems to be guilty of a double crime, for by the same acts with which he destroyed his own habitat, he robbed wildlife—songbirds, fish, wild ducks and geese and fur-bearing animals of their natural homes. Their breeding grounds were destroyed, their food and water supplies were just as badly affected as man's living conditions. No matter how carefully we protect wildlife from human molestation, they cannot multiply when their natural homes are destroyed.

There is much more to the story than can be told here and the rest of it promises to be much more surprising and exciting than this first chapter. For instance, there is the story of the part trees and deep-rooted vegetation play not only in holding the water on the surface until it soaks into the ground, but how that same vegetation serves as nature's pump to bring up the same water again from the ground and literally pour it back into the air through the pores in the leaves. Scientists have measured the amount of water an average-sized tree will pump up and give off into the air on a dry, windy day, if its roots can reach the underground water. Impossible as it sounds, a tree will bring up from the ground and give off through its leaves more water, and faster, than a man with a 3-gallon bucket can carry water by ladder to the top of the tree, working a full eight-hour day. A whole forest of trees working together could imaginably



How man does improve on nature!

have a startling effect on the content of moisture in the air, and atmosphere heavily charged with moisture is a promising condition for a local summer shower.

If the above analysis of the importance of the ground water table seems too fanciful for ready belief, there are several experimental areas on which the above mentioned principles applicable to restoration of the ground water table have been successfully applied. For example, an area of more than 80 square miles north of Minot, North Dakota, and a semi-arid area of approximately a million acres in northern Nevada can be cited as suitable subjects for study because of their wide variation in geographic location and environmental conditions. In both cases the ground water table had fallen to a dangerously low level, springs had dried up, wells had gone completely dry, vegetation had been practically eliminated. Both of these broad stretches of land had been famous hardly 50 years ago for the prolific amount of wildlife—ducks, prairie chicken, antelope, deer, muskrat, sage grouse, and songbirds which made their homes there before man had destroyed their natural environment. By 1934 all wildlife had either perished or moved out and man was on the way.

In one area the primary cause was over-drainage of surface waters. In the other case, it was over-grazing, which left no vegetation, to hold the winter snows or sparse spring rains. Taking a tip from nature, the water from the rains and snows were held where they fell on these areas. Check dams were built to hold back the run-off, drainage ditches were stopped up and the water

• Continued on Page 31

INDIANS

O F T E X A S



THE INDIANS OF TEXAS,

by W. W. Newcomb, Jr. 404 pages, including 29 illustrations. Published by The University of Texas Press, 2211 Red River, Austin, Tex. \$5.75.

THE PEOPLES WHO INHABITED present-day Texas at the dawn of historic times are even less well known by the public than most North American Indians, and probably more myths, absurdities and falsehoods are connected with them than with the natives of any other state. This is because most Texas tribes disappeared many years ago, some before Americans entered what is now Texas, and it has not been possible to gather firsthand facts about them. Knowledge of their habits has had to be gleaned from written accounts of soldiers, missionaries, and explorers who first visited them. Much has been written about

the surviving North American Indian tribes, but no one has before written a comprehensive book about the by-gone people of Texas.

Dr. Newcomb undertook to write *THE INDIANS OF TEXAS* for two reasons. First, he says, his own ignorance of Texas Indians and the conviction that as an anthropologist he should be able to answer questions about them, started his search for this information. The second reason was the belief that by knowing and understanding tribes and nations far removed from ourselves in time or space, we can better evaluate ourselves and our age, setting the stage for a more intelligent appreciation of other peoples in the modern world. A knowledge of savage Karankawas or bloodthirsty Comanches can be of help in this respect, and in realizing that our ways and beliefs are only our own solutions to what may be common human problems. Simply because other ways are different from our own does not make them inferior or wrong. In a day when we are closer than ever before to the rest of the world, it is vital to be able to understand others and to appraise ourselves realistically.

This book does not claim to be an exhaustive, final study of Texas Indians, but is a first attempt to put together the fundamental facts about all Texas Indians.

The chapters have been arranged in an ascending order of technological productivity. Those tribes who, because of environment or other reasons, produced the least amount of food and other useful goods have been placed first, the most productive, richer tribes later.

The author observes that in this day of increasing conformity and standardization, the sprawling state of Texas remains the meeting ground and melting pot of the Old South, the Spanish Southwest, and the Midwest. So it was in Indian times, but magnified then many times over. The various tribes and nations of Texas Indians were not fashioned from the same cloth; in some cases they were not even vaguely similar. Some differed in their modes of living about as much as Texas do from Tibetans. So far as the rambling political boundaries of Texas are concerned, Texas Indians at the beginning of

A Comanche
Warrior



Art from the book
By Hal M. Story

history were members of one or another of four different cultural traditions. In later years, Indians of tribes representative of all the major patterns of living in the eastern half of the United States ventured into Texas at one time or another. They have not been included in the book, because of space limitations and the fact that their stay in Texas was usually brief.

This is a technical and very factual book, but it is also extremely interesting and readable. Dr. Newcomb does a commendable job in giving his readers insight into what made these strange early Texans tick. The shadowy figures became real and living. Tattooed Wichitas, terrible

Comanches, cannibalistic Karankawas—their customs and ways of life become comprehensible and meaningful.

The cultures of the original inhabitants of Texas have long since been destroyed. Yet, in a genetic, biological sense, most have managed in some degree to survive. Whenever peoples of alien cultures meet, they may fight or intermingle, but they almost always interbreed. How much of a genetic contribution the aborigines made to the white and Negro populations of Texas is enigmatic. Dr. Newcomb points out, "That it was made is certain; that it was greater than is generally believed seems likely." **

Joan Pearsall



Commission Appoints New Directors

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS now are being made under the proposed reorganization for the Game & Fish Commission, with top places already filled.

The reorganization is the result of a survey made by the Texas Research League at the request of the commission. The purpose is to modernize the operations of the commission to better fill the increasing pressure in the outdoors field.

The change-over is expected to take place by September 1, or as soon thereafter as possible. However, final authority will be taken by the First Special Call Session of the 57th Legislature, in passing the appropriations bill.

In a move to activate the reorganization the Game & Fish Commission meeting in Austin in July continued Howard Dodgen as executive secretary and W. J. Cutbirth, Jr., as assistant secretary. Dodgen then announced names of those selected to fill key positions.

Cutbirth will be the assistant director of administrative services.

Eugene A. Walker was named as assistant director of program planning and Howard Lee assistant director of field operations.

Walker previously was director of

wildlife management and Lee was director of the coastal division.

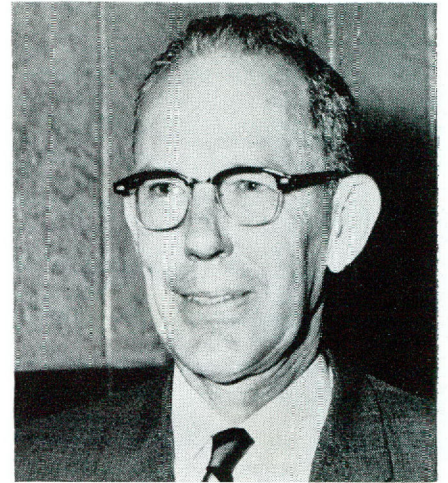
Regional directors also were named as follows: Henry Burkett, region 1, San Angelo area; A. W. Lewis, region 2, Waco area; John M. Carlisle, region 3, Tyler area; J. R. Singleton, region 4, Houston area and R. G. Mauermann, region 5, Rockport area.

Program coordinators then were named by the assistant directors. They include, Marion Toole, inland fisheries; A. J. Springs, wildlife management; T. D. Carroll, information and education; J. B. Phillips, law enforcement; Terrance R. Leary, marine fisheries; Joe Marks, engineering and C. L. Friou, fiscal director.

Capt. E. M. Sprott, present director of law enforcement, scheduled to retire early next year, will remain with the department in an executive capacity until that time.

Other positions will be filled within the next 30 days so that the transition may be effected with the least of trouble, according to the executive secretary.

The Texas Research League was requested by the Commission a year ago in an effort to increase efficiency in the operation of the department to meet growth both of the organization and needs of those who hunt and fish.



W. J. Cutbirth, Jr.



Howard Lee



Eugene A. Walker



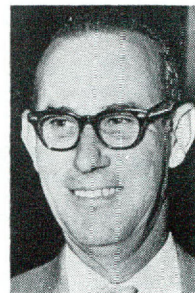
J. R. Singleton



A. W. Lewis



Henry Burkett



R. G. Mauermann



John M. Carlisle

and Sets Basic

Hunt Schedule

Basic hunting seasons for the 120 counties of Texas under regulatory authority of the Game and Fish Commission have been set. White-tailed deer season in most of the counties will begin November 16 and extend to December 31, along with counties which are under the general law. The Trans-Pecos season on mule deer will be December 1 to 8 inclusive.

In the Northeast Texas regulatory area, covering Red River, Titus, Fannin and Bowie, the season will be November 16 to November 30, except on the Red River Arsenal area in Bowie County, where the season will be November 16 to December 5.

The Commission also has authorized a third or "bonus" deer in designated areas. The bonus deer will be an antlerless deer, and permit tags must be obtained from the landowner, or his authorized agent, on whose property the deer has been killed. Currently, the following counties are listed for the "bonus" deer: Bandera, Bosque, Crockett, Edwards, Llano, Mason, Medina, Sutton, Comal, Dimmitt, Zavala, Freestone, Grimes and Robertson counties.

The taking of the third deer will be permitted only on areas where there is a surplus. Deer counts will be made during early November, and permits issued to the landowners where hunting of the third deer will be permitted. In all of these counties it will be permissible to kill two bucks or one doe and one buck on the regular license and doe permits.

These regulations cover counties where the regulatory authority control already is in effect. Several other counties which come into the regulatory program after August 28 may

have some areas open to the "bonus" deer hunting.

The Commission has done away with checking stations and landowners will be issued metal tags and doe permits on their property where indicated by census.

The Commission also set the mourning dove season to open in the North Zone September 1 and continue for 60 days. In the South Zone, it will open October 7 and continue 60 days, except in those counties where white-winged dove hunting will be permitted September 8, 9 and 10. It will be legal to hunt mourning doves during this special whitewing season, but these three days will be charged off the length of the regular season in those counties.

The Commission also voted to permit the use of dogs in taking deer in Harding, Jasper, Liberty, Orange, Polk and Tyler counties. Jefferson and Montgomery counties in the South Texas regulatory area were not included in the dog hunting permit.

The Commission agreed to withhold setting the quail season and bag limits pending further investigation of this year's crop of birds. This season will be set at the regular fall meeting, October 6.

The Commission voted authority to the executive secretary of the Commission to set the upcoming waterfowl season within the bracket approved by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which will be announced in mid August.

The Commission also took steps to increase the revenue of the department by increasing the price of marl, shell and mudshell 5¢ per cubic yard, with a 2½¢ increase to go into effect October 1, 1961, and another 2½¢ increase to go into effect October 1,

1962. It was agreed that the price of gravel and sand be announced by the Commission to correspond with the average price of sand, marl and gravel in the community where it is sold. Under this ruling, the price of the sand, marl and gravel will be the average price of the commodity sold in the community affected.

Antelope season this year will be the same as last year, both in the Trans-Pecos and the Panhandle areas.

Prong-horns may be taken October 1-7 inclusive in Brewster, Culberson, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Presidio and Reeves counties. Aerial counts of the antelope population are now being made. It then will be determined the number of doe permits and the ranches on which they will be issued.

PRONG-HORNED ANTELOPE in Dallam, Hartley and Moore Counties, and Oldham County north of the Canadian River, the open season shall be October 14, 15 and 16. In Roberts, Hutchinson and Potter Counties, and Oldham County south of the Canadian River, the open season shall be October 18, 19 and 20.

In each of the areas antelope hunting will be restricted to those holding valid permits issued by the Game & Fish Commission to the landowner. These permits are obtained from the landowner, with the number based on herd reductions authorized by commission personnel.

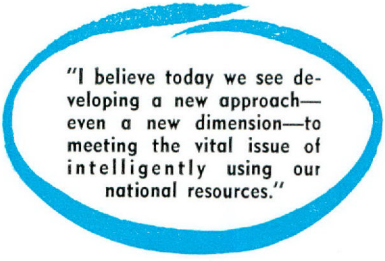
Persons interested in getting antelope hunting permits can obtain information of their availability from landowners by writing the Chambers of Commerce in Marfa, Alpine for the Trans-Pecos area, or to the Chambers of Commerce in Amarillo, Borger and Pampa in the Panhandle areas. **

A New Dimension In Recreation

By CONRAD L. WIRTH

Director of National Park Service

From a speech to the 26th North American Wildlife Conference



"I believe today we see developing a new approach—even a new dimension—to meeting the vital issue of intelligently using our national resources."

FOR YEARS WE HAVE USED catchwords such as "urban sprawl" and "exploding population"—and, more recently, "open space"—but for all this talk and real concern not enough has been done. I believe that today we see developing a new approach—even a new dimension—to meeting the vital issue of intelligently using our national resources.

President Kennedy in his Special Message to the Congress on natural resources has called for specific measures in the protection of our remaining wilderness and the preservation of seashore recreational areas. Of even greater significance, he has instructed Secretary of the Interior Udall to take the initiative in drawing together all Federal, State and local officials, and private leaders to formulate a comprehensive and cooperative program to identify and solve the Nation's outdoor and recreational needs.

That the people are awakening to the problem, becoming alert to the need, and are beginning to take the initiative is adequately demonstrated by the response they are giving to President Kennedy and Secretary Udall in their forthright stand on these issues.

The new dimension in outdoor recreation exists because we have recognized the ratio between open space and man's inner strength. This new dimension—appearing as it does in the suddenly frightening crush of urbanization and population growth

—must result in an inner strength for the Nation.

There are few men of sound character and significant achievements who can say that they never knew nature . . . that they had never measured their strength and endurance on a mountain or against raging waters, or that they had never sublimated themselves to the beauty and inspiration of the forest, lake and meadow.

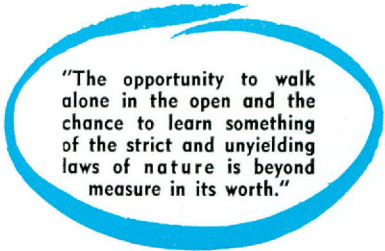
But in comparison with the recreation opportunities which we have enjoyed—and which have helped to form the character of our Nation—what opportunities will remain for the next generation and the generations that will follow? A healthy body and mind is a natural birthright of every American. The opportunity to walk alone in the open and the chance to learn something of the strict and unyielding laws of nature is beyond measure in its worth.

We need a variety of public recreation areas, ranging in kind and location from remote wilderness to highly developed playgrounds near densely populated cities. The small city parks are as important in their way as the great expanses of many of our national parks. We must remember that parks of any size open an unlimited range of healthful and emotionally satisfying experiences to people of all ages. We need, however, to provide all segments of our present and future population with adequate nonurban areas near their homes for frequent day and weekend use, as well as remote areas for vaca-


tion use. We must do this without delay.

We need also to conserve recreation resources outside the designated recreation areas, through such measures as pollution control, zoning, and land management that adequately recognizes recreation values. Perhaps there is something we can learn from the British system, which recognizes the preeminence of recreation values in some areas of otherwise private land use. Many large tree farms in this country are already programming recreational development of their resources.

As the National Park Service is a leader in the management of public recreational resources—with a major responsibility under specific law to the people of the Nation—it seems proper to review first the new dimension as it affects the National Park



"The opportunity to walk alone in the open and the chance to learn something of the strict and unyielding laws of nature is beyond measure in its worth."



"We are beginning to learn that the Liberty Bell, the Grand Canyon and Old Faithful are not just ours—they are to be shared with the world."

the story of America as revealed in the national parks, monuments, and historic places is an educational function which must be extended from the parks themselves to reach those who seldom if ever go to these areas.

The face of America as seen by a typical foreign national visiting our national parks is something to make us stop for reflection. One such foreign visitor wrote: "I have no hesitation in saying that the National Park System represents to me the finest symbol there is in the American way of life. During my stay in the U.S.A. I had the opportunity of studying many aspects of American life, politics, etc., but I remain with the firm conclusion that the National Park System is the most admirable aspect of American life that I encountered."

There are no politics in national parks. They cut across ideological boundaries. They present to our foreign guests a picture of America very much in contrast to that of the greedy capitalist and gangster so frequently drawn.

The National Parks may well be the center of an American effort to attract visitors from foreign lands. We are beginning to learn that the Liberty Bell, the Grand Canyon, and Old Faithful are not just ours . . . they are to be shared with the world.

It is for these reasons—not just for our own purposes—that we must make the effort and spend the relatively small sum necessary to greatly expand and improve the interpretive services demanded of us.

There are two questions now being asked seriously by friends of the national parks: (1) Will the new development under Mission 66 impair values or reduce opportunities for public enjoyment of the national parks? (2) Does wilderness preservation mean discarding the tradition of national park hospitality and require the rationing of visitors or the elimination of lodges and campgrounds, or other radical changes?

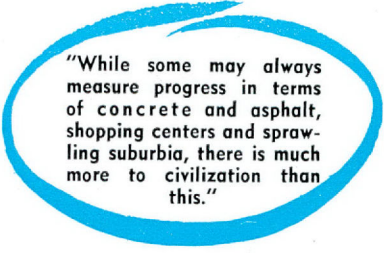
Originally some of the first national parks were so large, the roads so poor, and methods of transportation so inefficient that centers were created within the parks to accommodate visitors. Today, many of these visitor service centers have been removed or relocated in such a way to minimize

any unwelcome intrusion on the park scene. Yellowstone National Park—bigger than Rhode Island and more than half as big as Connecticut—must have "villages" within it for administrative reasons and to meet the needs of visitors. Such centers in all the parks are strictly zoned and they are not "resorts." Large wilderness areas, made accessible from these centers by roads and trails are similarly "zoned" and protected by rigid supervision of visitors' activities.

Many people greatly desire the experience of spending a night within a park. We have a responsibility to provide for this tremendously worthwhile experience wherever possible and where such development will not jeopardize basic park values.

We must continue a united effort to tell the "park story"—an information program by all friends and supporters of outdoor recreation—to break down any remaining apathy toward public action and to encourage the enthusiastic cooperation of all citizens and civic groups throughout the Nation.

While some may always measure "progress" in terms of concrete and asphalt, shopping centers and sprawling suburbia, there is much more to civilization than this. Construction projects must be balanced by cool, clear streams running between wooded hills, quiet lakes, and the opportunity to hike deep into a wilderness unchanged by man. Let generations to come measure American civilizations by our dedication to these values. **



"While some may always measure progress in terms of concrete and asphalt, shopping centers and sprawling suburbia, there is much more to civilization than this."

System.

We are now approaching the half-way mark of that 10-year program which is familiar to all of you as Mission 66 and we hope to complete the basic elements of this program by 1966, the 50th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Much of the visible evidence of this program to date has been in the form of numerous construction projects designed to improve visitor facilities and to provide better access routes to existing National Parks and Monuments. I am glad to say that this portion of the program has met with appreciation and acceptance beyond expectations.

Nowhere has the need for preserving natural, open space for park and recreation use been more dramatically evident than along the Nation's sea and lake shores, where almost every desirable area has been preempted for development. An important part of Mission 66 is to preserve outstanding examples of such areas while there is yet time, outstanding seashores such as on Cape Cod; the secluded beauty of Cumberland Island, Georgia; the wild reaches of Padre Island, Texas; the still-unspoiled Point Reyes Peninsula, only 35 miles from San Francisco; the spectacular Oregon Dunes area, and the Sleeping Bear Dunes and Pictured Rocks on the Great Lakes in Michigan.

In the interpretation of those scenic, scientific, and historic areas which are the physical evidences of America's heritage we sincerely hope to make dramatic progress. Telling



Kitty Rote, Houston, takes aim on a jack rabbit. She has been state Women's Champion five times.



Junior Boys Champ Scott Bergherr; Junior Girls Champion Karen Chalmers; Intermediate Boys Champion Jay Harper and Intermediate Girls Champ T. Maxine Flato.



Michael Edwards, 10, and Ed Dreiss, 69, were the youngest and oldest entries. It's the first for Michael. Ed has been in all thirteen.



Gay Andrews, Garland, Women's Champion and Al Robinson, San Antonio, Men's Champion show off their trophies.

Archers Draw for Honors

By HAL SWIGGETT

THE TEXAS FIELD Archery Association held their first annual tournament May 28-29, 1949, at Corpus Christi with 22 competitors. On May 27-28 of this year the thirteenth Annual Tournament was held in San Antonio with 280 competitors, just six short of thirteen times the first entry.

Only two of this year's entries participated in that first tournament, Ed Dreiss, San Antonio, and Kitty Rote, Houston. Ed, 69 years young, has competed in each of the annual events. Kitty is a five times winner of the Women's Championship. Also present, but not competing, were

Bernie Dresden, Helotes; Hal Swiggett and "Arch" Gassman, San Antonio. Bernie was the first Champion as well as the first vice-president. Hal was the organization's first secretary.

This year's event was hosted by the San Antonio Field Archers. They had three complete 28-target courses. Each was in perfect condition.

New officers were elected at a business meeting held at the Ramada Inn, Sunday. Jimmy Dickens, Austin, the out-going president, was elected secretary-treasurer and Gilbert Boenig, San Antonio, is the new president. George Rohrbach, San Marcos, is Field Captain.

The 1961 Champions read like this: Men's Division, Al Robinson, San Antonio with a 1283; Women's Division, Gay Andrews, Garland, 964; Intermediate Boys, Jay Harper, Mesquite, 1063; Intermediate Girls, T. Maxine Flato, Houston, 686; Junior Boys, Scott Bergherr, Houston, 892; Junior Girls, Karen Chalmers, Houston, 333. A 285 yard shot won the Men's Flight Shoot for Glenn Sutton, Angleton. The Women's Flight Shooting Champion is Marie Glenn, Houston, with 226 yards.

The 1962 tournament will be held Memorial Day week-end in San Marcos

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Swimmers touching a jelly find themselves in a jam

drifting menace

By WES MABRITO

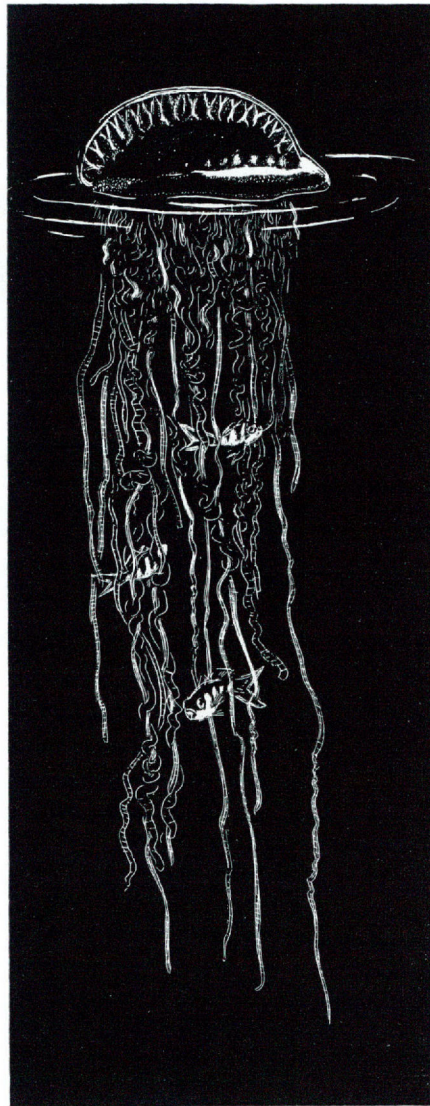
BEWARE OF THE JELLYFISH! During certain times of the year, the Gulf and bay waters along our coast become dotted with millions of jellyfish. To many people these strange, boneless creatures of the sea appear quite harmless as they move lazily and sluggishly in the water. Most jellies are, but there are a few swimming about that can ruin an outing with their painful stings.

Most common among the jellyfishes are the *Stomolophus meleagris*, or umbrella-shaped cabbageheads; the *Dactylometra*, with its pink-tinted edges; and the *Physalia*, or Portuguese Man-of-War. Only the latter two are dangerous since the cabbageheads do not possess stinging cells or tentacles. The Man-of-War is the most dangerous because of the extremely long tentacles trailing far out from its body and its more toxic effect on man. The *Dactylometra* is similar to the cabbagehead except for its long tentacles, size and pink-colored edges. This jellyfish may reach 8 inches in diameter.

Swimmers and skin divers often brush up against one of the stinging species and spend hours attempting to soothe their pains. Many times people fishing from boats or piers following a storm may learn indirectly about the jellyfish when detached tentacles are reeled in on their lines and drop on their hands, arms or other unprotected parts.

One of the greatest dangers resulting from contact with jellyfish is drowning. A victim could go into sudden shock or have muscular cramps because of the intense burning, throbbing or shooting pain caused by venomous tentacles, and subsequently drown.

The suffering, which often resembles the sensation caused by nettle, affects people in different ways. Some people realize only minute discomfort



The man-of-war fish lurks unharmed in the tentacles, luring larger fish into stinging range.

while others may be overcome with nausea, fainting, chills, delirium or hysteria. A victim's face often becomes flushed or pale followed by increased perspiration. His eyes may water and the nose become inflamed. A severe reaction to the sting could cause vomiting, frothing at the mouth, convulsions or a tightness of the throat.

So powerful can be the toxin of the Man-of-War that it is not uncommon for the pain to radiate from a spot on the arm to the groin or

from the waist to an armpit. The pain may be followed by numbness. Usually, the area that comes in contact with the tentacles of one of these beautiful floaters becomes red, frequently breaks into welts and may be followed by blistering or swelling.

Jellyfish tentacles are primarily designed to paralyze prey. The mouth is on the underside of the umbrella and is surrounded by lips that have stinging threads.

Often, the cause of a sting is man's own doing and not the fault of the fish. Either through carelessness or because of murky water that interferes with vision, an unsuspecting person can easily swim or wade into a lolling jellyfish that hasn't the slightest intention of interrupting a good time.

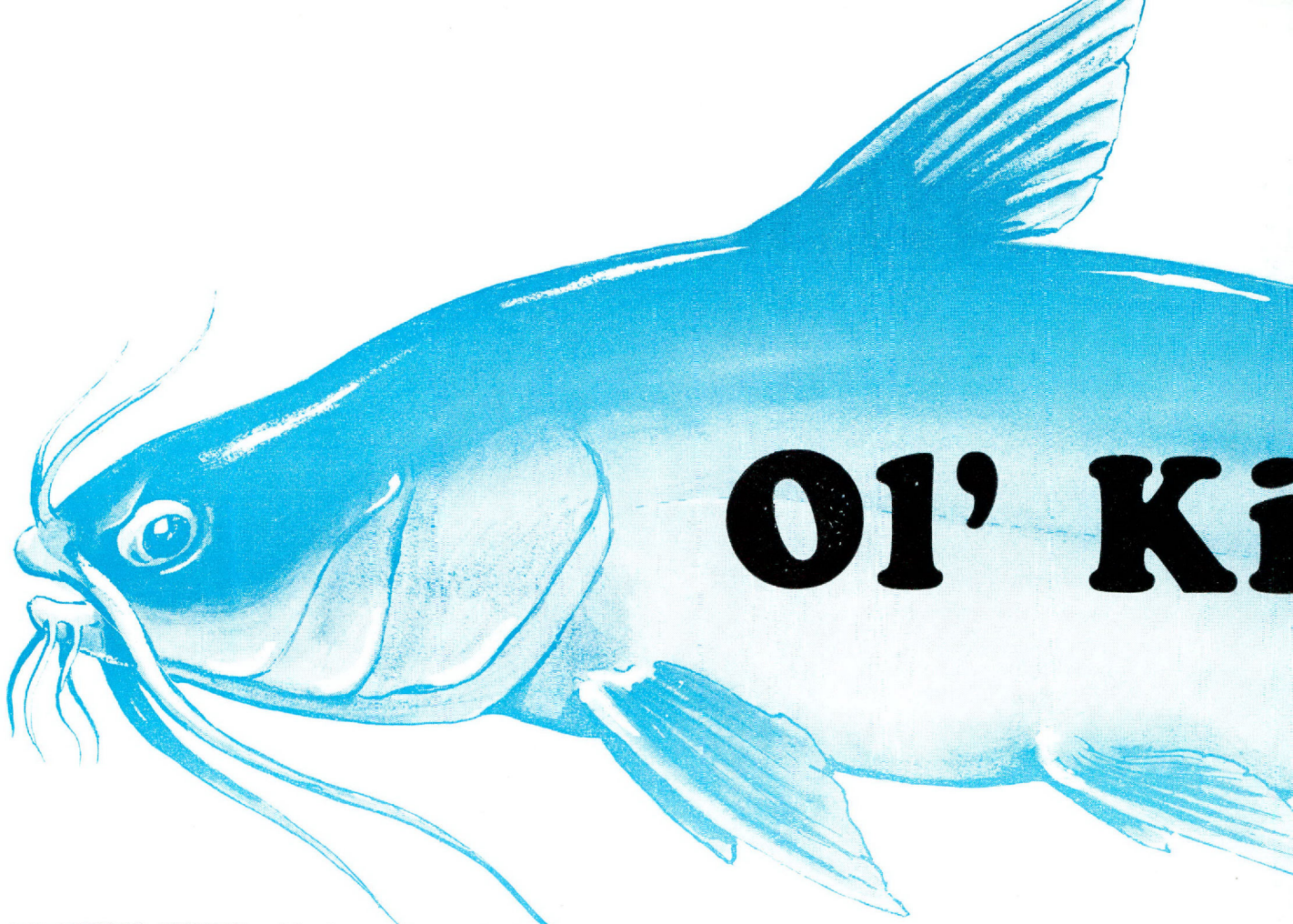
There are several treatments for a jellyfish sting. If the tentacles cling to the skin, remove them with seaweed, sand or a rag. Don't touch them with bare hands. Then decrease the neurotoxic effects and pain by applying either olive oil, baking soda, sugar, diluted ammonium hydroxide, ethyl alcohol or a soothing lotion. Artificial respiration may be required to counteract the effects of shock if the victim gets in that condition. If the reaction is this severe, get the patient to a doctor immediately.

It is difficult to distinguish one jellyfish from another, except for the Man-of-War. If you see one in the surf or along the shoreline stay well out of range of possible tentacles.

Keep the children away from them as they lie innocently in the sand along the beaches. Don't pop the air sacks of Man-of-Wars; even after they are beached and dead, the poison is still there.

Respect the water and all its contents, including jellyfish, and you'll spend many more enjoyable days taking advantage of the thrills it affords.

**



HAVING FISHED with the catfish clan for more than 30 years over most of the south and southwest, including the lowlands of Louisiana and Mississippi, I believe I have taken my share of the catfish. These were all kinds and various sizes up to 70 pounds so I feel I know a little about catfish, how to identify and fish for each.

First, let me say this: catfishing is rugged, but fun; also, catfish are fine eating. A large cat can be a rough customer to tangle with. Rather, to get your line tangled, often broken. He hasn't a lick of sense nor any sense of humor or fair play.

Now the catfish I will attempt to introduce or acquaint you with are the largest and the choicest of fish, starting with the blue cat. The biggest I have seen weighed 156 pounds and was taken from a trotline set out in the lower Sabine River. I have taken them up to 65 and 70 pounds myself, though this doesn't happen every day. Most run from 5 to 25 pounds.

The blue cat is sometimes confused with the channel since both have forked tails. The anal fin on the blue

cat is long and square while the channel's is shorter and rounded. The blue cat is gamey. Powerful. A rip snorter; tackle busting fool. Fine flavored if taken from clear water.

The yellow, or Opelousas cat, is actually a flathead. It's powerful yet slow, sluggish, and lazy. It has the flat, broad head, short, round anal fin, and often is called a square tail. The colors vary with this cat depending on the water. In some areas it is called the Opelousas or striped cat, and is a blue green to olive tan covered with bars and blotches of black and sort of zebra striped.

In other areas the flathead is called a yellow cat and is usually just that: yellow or golden green to olive tan. Tiny black spots may show on the yellow but are very small as a rule. I have seen a yellow weigh in at 112½ pounds and several reaching 40 to 60 pounds.

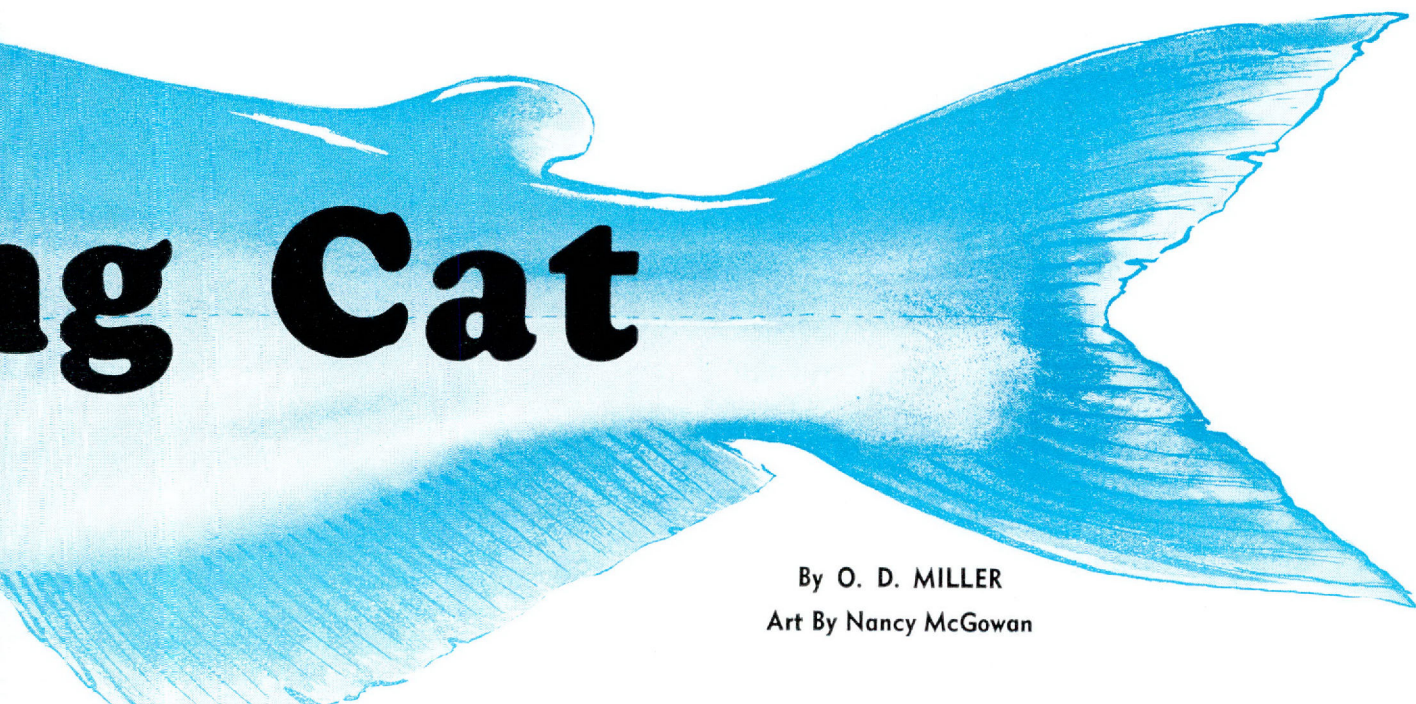
Although catfish are supposed to be night feeders they can and do bite at any time. However, as a rule the big ones bite at night more often than in the daytime. Yet I removed an 18-pound blue from a trotline this past August that took the bait

between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. I have taken many other nice cats in daytime, when the bait is put down to them.

Weather and barometer pressure affect the habits of fish greatly. In hot sultry weather the cat is sluggish. Lazy. Prefers to hide in dark places. If the barometer reading is high chances are the fish will move a bit. Early spring, April to June, is my favorite time for the big cat. Later, from mid-September to December 1. I don't mean you can't take a large cat during the hot summer months but I have always had better luck in cool weather, especially with the larger fish. This isn't so with the smaller sizes.

Baits and tackle are important for catfishing. I won't go into detail too much on size or kind of tackle, that is your choice to make. I personally use a bay rod, 200-yard capacity salt-water reel with star drag, 50-pound test line and heavy hooks of the Sheep head or eagle claw pattern. Just use tackle strong enough to handle what you expect to hook.

All cats love a dark place or swift water. So look for them around such



ing Cat

By O. D. MILLER

Art By Nancy McGowan

places as cut or hollowed banks, rocks, stumps, log jams, drifts, tree-tops; quiet, deep, dark pools or in fast water. Work in close to banks unless the water is deeper farther out.

Talk. Sing. Yell all you want. Fish don't seem to hear voices too well. But, walk easy around banks. All fish are very sensitive to vibrations and spook easily. Put your bait down deep, on or near the bottom, if fishing with pole or rod and reel. Move around quietly until you hook a cat or two. Where one is hooked, chances are another is close by.

If you find a spot where you can fish off a bank where the water is deep, or where throw lines and bank poles can be used, you are really in luck. A good springy willow pole rigged up without line and two good hooks has often paid off with a nice double catch, as the spring of the pole helps set the hook. Also helps wear the fish out. Be sure to stick pole deep in the bank.

If throw lines are used, a small turkey or sheep bell on each line at tip of pole is fun when a hooked fish pulls the line. (A campfire, coffee pot, a few sandwiches, a few throw

lines with bells and you can sure enjoy going after old King Catfish.)

Here are a few of my pet baits for catfish. There are thousands of baits but these are good enough for me. Peel the tails of several large crawfish and stick a large wad on a hook. This is for cane poles or rod and reel. If trot line is used, keep crawfish alive.

Mussels or fresh water clams are usually plentiful in shallow water. Gather as many as you need. Just break open the shell, take out mussel meat and use whole unless fishing for smaller fish. If so cut to bait size. Good for all fish. Fine for the cats.

Carp sucker, shad and gar all make good cut bait. Cut in chunks. Use fresh or soak in blood for two hours. Liver, kidneys and heart all are good cut baits. To toughen, salt heavily, lay in sun until bait is tough enough to suit you. These baits are better if they are soaked in blood from two hours to overnight. It may be beef, pork or poultry blood.

Here is a way to preserve small rough fish bait such as shad, buffalo, carp, sucker, that die easily. Just spread on racks, or bank. Let them

dry in sun for hour or so. Salt heavily and pack loosely in box or can. String them on hooks. Use whole fish up to 6 inches. This works especially well with shad and white sucker. The sun and salt toughens them. Don't worry because they die. Catfish take them anyway. This also works fine with minnows.

Should you be hauling live minnows, and run out of ice and they show signs of sickness, if possible, change water first. Or drop two aspirins in bucket. See how they perk up. Use more according to size of container.

If low on bait buy one pound of wieners. Cut in one-inch chunks. Lay in sun for hour or so. Pin on hooks.

Chunks of stale cheese are good baits. Also plain white soap. I have taken fish on laundry soap when other baits failed. Clean your catch as soon as possible if soap is used to avoid odors and soap taste in the meat.

For pure minnow stink bait, seine one gallon of river minnows and pour in a dry can (they have to die anyway.) Spread thinly on floor of barn,

• Continued on Page 29

First Lady of the Tournament

By CURTIS CARPENTER



Mrs. Joe Sarro with her 8-pound red.

FOR THE FIRST TIME in the history of the Redfish Bay Tournament held annually at Port Mansfield, a woman walked away with most of the honors including grand champion. San Antonio's Mrs. Joe Sarro captured first and second in the ladies' largest redfish division. Her biggest red, 8-pounds, 1-ounce, was the heaviest taken by anyone. The next two largest reds landed by Mrs. Sarro were heavier than any caught by women contestants.

Mrs. Tony McFadden weighed in the next heaviest red in the women's division to take third place awards. In the ladies' trout division, Mrs. Dorothy Drawe of Progreso placed first with 4 pounds and 6 ounces. Mrs. Elbert Sanders of Edinburg was second with a 3-pound trout, and

Mrs. Van Raimond of Houston came in third with a 2½-pound fish.

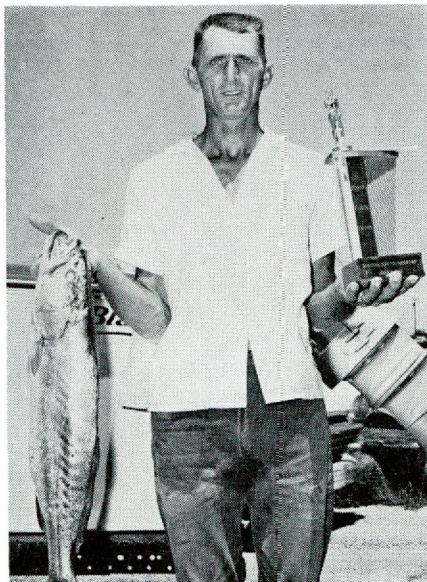
The largest string honors in the ladies division went to Mrs. Howard Heard of Raymondville with 27 pounds of trout.

Henry Krafka of Harlingen weighed in an 8-pound, 10-ounce trout to win first place in the largest trout division. Ira Wright of Edinburg was second with a 7-pound, 12-ounce trout. Art Sharnhorst, also of Edinburg, placed third with a 6-pound, 12-ounce fish.

The closest anyone came to Mrs. Sarro's red was a 5-pound, 13-ounce scrapper caught by Lee Smith of Harlingen. It put him in first place in the men's redfish division. Garland Frix of Brownwood was second in the men's redfish division with a 5-pound, 9-ounce red.



House boats work well in Redfish Bay.



Henry Krafka and his big trout.



Fishermen had beautiful weather.

In the drum division, R. F. Patterson of Mission took top honors with a 6-pound, 4-ounce fish. Julio DeLaGarza was second with a 4½ pound fish.

Eleven-year-old Berry Burkes of Raymondville caught the most fish in the junior division, 26 fish, to capture first place in that division. Barbara Stone, 10 year-old, from the same city was second with 22 fish. Forester Crowder, 12 years from the same city, had 19 fish for third place.

With the exception of a few scattered thunder showers, the weather was perfect for fishing at Port Mansfield. People were catching fish out of boats, off piers, and wading. The best baits seemed to be live shrimp, live pin perch and artificials. Perch took the most large trout while a gold spoon fooled the largest taken during the tournament.

It was another very successful event for Port Mansfield.

Few people had trouble catching enough fish for the table. A person could almost stop his boat anywhere along the intra-coastal canal, throw out a line and catch something. School trout (small speckled trout just keeper size) were thick nearly any place where the water was knee deep. They were so near in size that some fishermen claimed they were produced from the same mold.

A few weeks before along the shore bordering the King Ranch fishermen were hauling in some giant specs using

pin perch. One fisherman reported he had a string of trout that averaged about 6 pounds apiece. One went over 9 pounds. But just as the tournament began the big boys ended their biting spree. Krafka's was one of the few very big ones entered in the tournament.

Once the site that is now Port Mansfield was nearly barren. Only a weather-worn pier and a few fishing shacks marked the spot. That wasn't too many years ago. Since the dredging of the canal the old Redfish Bay Landing has blossomed into a popular resort city, with modern facilities including some outstanding docking arrangements.

It's not far south to the mouth of the Arroyo Colorado where some beautiful catches of trout are reported each year. Or, head your boat north and try your luck along the land cut, another top fishing spot. If you want to wade the surf and challenge a bull red or two, steer straight out the channel east and you will end up on Padre Island. There's no better wade-fishing beach in the country!

Take your choice. Most of the areas were designed and built by man. But there is one characteristic of the bay that hasn't changed with time—and that's the fishing. Tournament or not, it has always been a good place to fish. **



Spectators watch for returning boats.



School trout were plentiful.



Berry Burkes placed first in Juniors.



Everyone had fun and caught fish.



Even waders like Port Mansfield.

Corpus Christi trio devote three years in gathering

TEXAS SHELL SPECIMENS

By CASH ASHER

THE BRIGHT NURSERY
RHYME about hunting seashells down by the seashore rings falsely to three Corpus Christi area women, who for three years have been probing into mud banks and weedy shallows as amateur liaison scientists for the University of Texas and the Welder Wildlife Refuge. They have been commissioned to collect and classify all of the species and sub-species of the shells of the region. Old, wave-worn shells are not suitable. The specimens must be alive!

The women, all members of the Corpus Christi Shell club, are Mrs. Jud Taylor and Mrs. J. T. Floyd, of Corpus Christi; and Mrs. Fred Spears, of Sinton.

Their adventures have been varied. Once a large stingaree slithered from under the foot of Mrs. Spears, after grazing her ankle with his jagged stiletto. At another time, a sudden gust of wind upset their rubber life-raft, drenching them in cold water, three feet deep.

They started their researches with equipment and a boat provided by the Marine Research Laboratory at Port Aransas. This is a sub-division of the University of Texas, under the

direction of Dr. H. T. Odum, oceanographer and marine biologist. Both the boat and equipment proved unsuitable for their work, so they discarded most of it during the first few months. They discovered that a smaller boat, a rubber life-raft, and even inflated inner tubes worked much better in shallow, weedy areas where the specimens they sought could be found. Dressed in rubber waders and sometimes in bathing suits, they ate cold lunches on sandbars, made coffee over driftwood fires and fought against winds and waves.

Five bays near Corpus Christi, the Gulf of Mexico along Padre and Mustang Islands—and the Laguna Madre were areas in their assignment. Along the waterfront of Corpus Christi they found a species that was believed to be extinct in the region. Their collection grew week after week. The perfect specimens were taken to the laboratory where they were cleaned and classified.

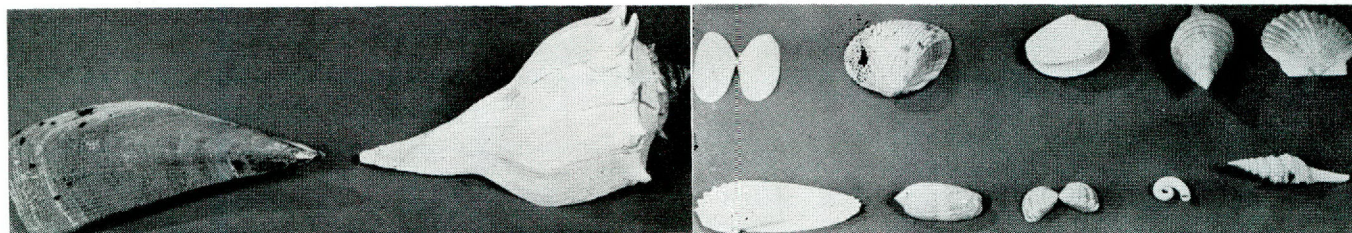
"Most of the shells picked up on the beaches are not alive," Mrs. Spears reports. "The marine creatures that build them, as a bird builds a nest, and occupied them for

months, years or decades, normally live in the sand or silt at the edge of the sea. Occasionally a storm will cast some upon the beach, or old and feeble ones will be washed in by the wind or tides and become stranded. Informed collectors learn to recognize the type of environment the different species require. They know, for example, that the beautiful lettered olive, native to the island beaches, burrows into the sand and travels like a mole, leaving a surface ridge. The shell can be found beneath the sand at the prominent terminus, of the ridge.

"The angel wing, or pholas, usually is found anchored in the sand or surf close to shore. It has a semi-permanent abode there and sends up a periscope-like siphon through which it keeps in touch with its surroundings, and gets its oxygen and food."

Asked to explain why some shells are found with tiny holes bored in them, she said:

"The holes are made by drill shells. These, usually, are small, cone-shaped bandits of the beach. They fasten themselves to shells many times larger than they are and start boring, using a chemical to soften the ma-



The saw-toothed pen shell at left got its name because of its resemblance to the old fashioned quill pens. They are brownish black and usually from 4 to 12 inches long. The lightning whelk, or left-handed whelk, at right is one of the largest of all whelks and is the only one with spirals twisting to the left.

Above are some shells often seen lying on the beach. From left to right at top are a species of butterfly (or wedge or coquina) shell a yellow cockle, white cockle, tulip shell, scallop; bottom, angel wing, olive shell, gem clam, *Spirula spirula*, and a *turris albrida*. The olive shell buries in the sand and comes out at night.

terial. Once through the hard-covering, they feast on the inhabitant, and it comes to an unfortunate end."

Within the limits of Corpus Christi, close to 100 species of shells can be found. These include the angel wings, moons, drills, slippers, boat shells and the left-handed whelks. The whelk is one of the most interesting species in the area. It is the only one found anywhere with the opening on the left side. In India, according to Mrs. Taylor, a species of this shell is used as a vessel in religious ceremonies. This usage springs from a story based on the hazy beginnings of man's reign on the earth, when an evil spirit threatened to destroy the planet. Just before this catastrophe happened, a giant left-handed whelk emerged from the ocean and destroyed the evil one.

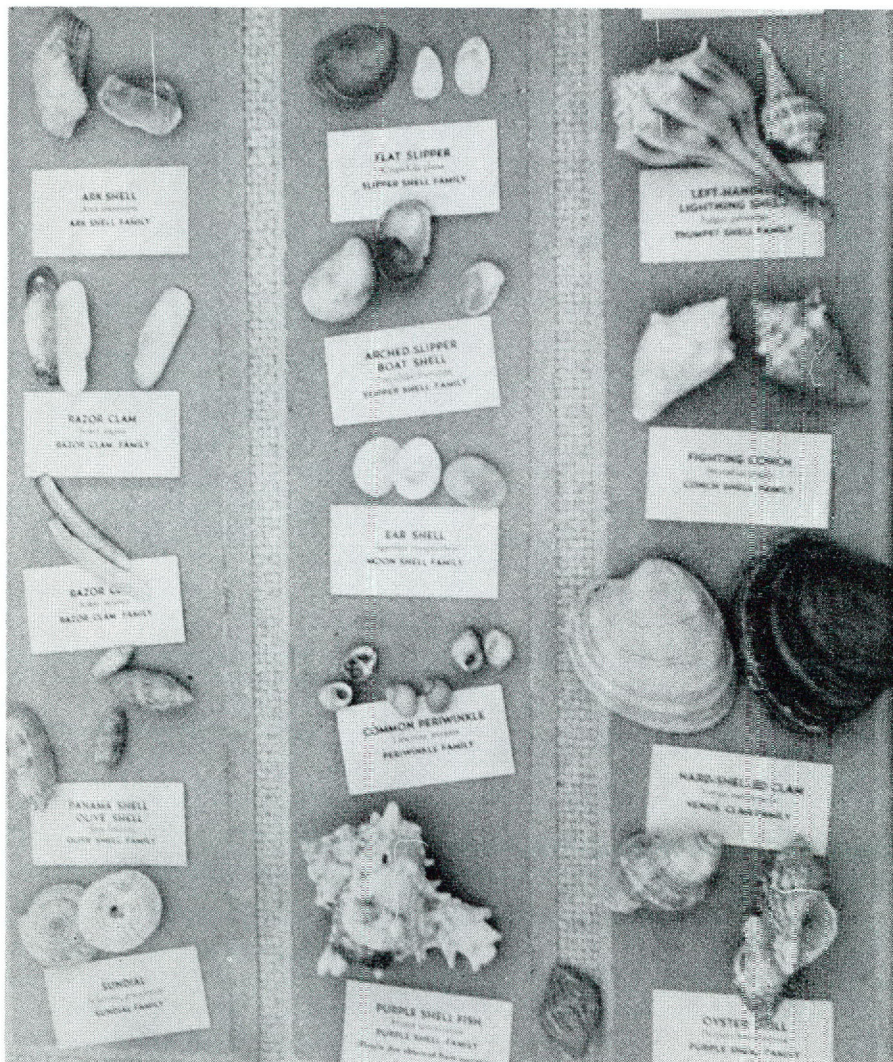
The species found locally is commonly called the "lightning shell." The largest specimens are nearly a foot long and the lip is lined with brown. Brown, lightning-like streaks radiate from the spire. The body is dark-colored but fades and whitens with age, according to authorities.

Occasionally an old, faded shell can be seen ambling along the beach at a dog-trot. Examination reveals that a hermit crab has moved in. This creature lacks the skill to build a home of his own and takes possession of any empty, convenient shell he can find. He goes in backward, leaving his feet free so he can travel along the beach, with his new-found residence protecting most of his anatomy. Try to dislodge him and he crowds back into the shell. The best way to evacuate him is to dunk him in a pail of hot water. This is the method used by shell-collectors to house-clean the specimens they find.

With 260 different kinds of shells found and classified, the trio of Corpus Christi researchers believe their work is about completed.

"We may discover a few more, but it's doubtful," Mrs. Spears said. "It looks like we have found most of the species that inhabit this region."

In addition to the collection of Rockport, they are giving collections to the Texas Game and Fish Commission, the Corpus Christi Junior Museum and the museum at the Welder Wildlife Refuge. **



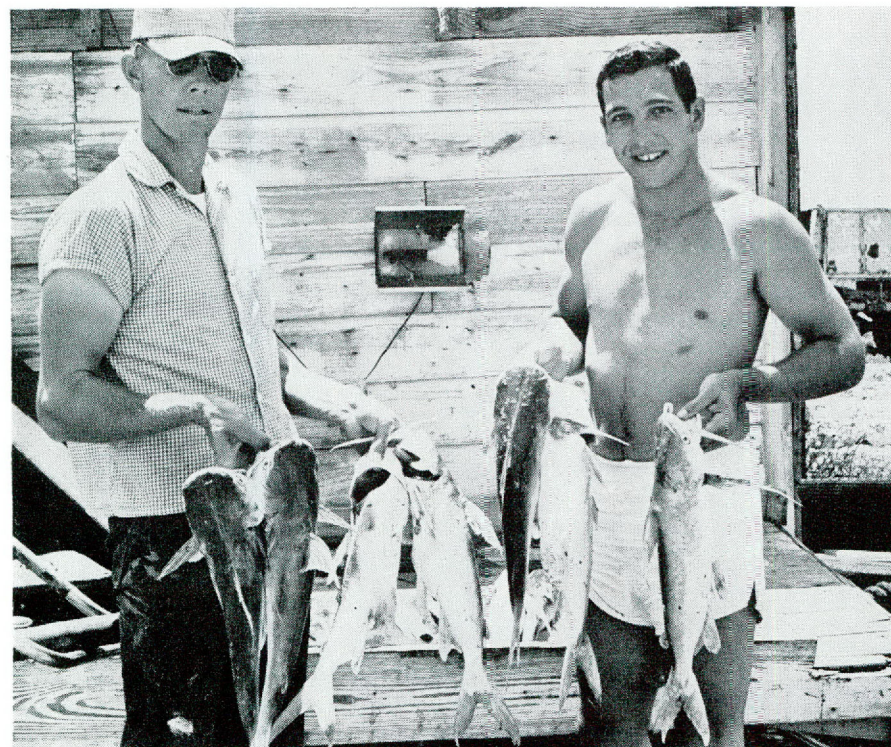
The Texas shells above are just a sample of the wonderful collection on display at the Texas Memorial Museum in Austin. Each shell is identified. The collection includes foreign shells.



Another interesting creature of the sea is the soft-bodied hermit crab. It has no shell of its own but moves into one its size which captures its fancy. As the crab grows it must search out new shells to fit.



Raymond Muchowich with his 30 pound prize winning king.



Jack Adams and Saul Pullman of Eastland went out for catfish.

Freeport

By L. A. WILKE

THERE WERE 1200 entries in the Freeport annual fishing fiesta over the July 4, long holiday period this year. But there were more than that many thousand who flocked to the waters around Freeport for a vacation spree.

Indeed Freeport is a haven for free fishing, where thousands can fish on the gulf waters, in the new and old Brazos river, the intracoastal canal and along San Luis beach without charge.

In the fishing tournament Raymond Muchowich, owner of the Party Boats, Inc. fishing with a group of writers, caught the largest king fish, to win top place in that division and first place on the board. His king, caught after 45 minutes of fighting with a

Fish	Caught by
Tarpon	None
Largest King Mackerel	Raymond Muchowich, Freeport
2nd King Mackerel	Horace B. Moore, Houston
Largest Spanish Mackerel	Paul Doggett, Houston
Largest Ling (cobia)	C. F. Ammann, Angleton
2nd Ling	Sandy Walker, Houston
Largest Bonita	Odis Mays, Lake Jackson
Largest Dolphin	R. J. Foster, Freeport
Largest Jackfish (Crevalle)	Spike McKinney, Freeport
Largest Jackfish (Amber)	John McCullough, Houston
Largest Sailfish	John McCullough, Houston, 6'9"
2nd Sailfish	James H. Stuckey, Houston, 5'7"
Largest Warsaw	C. L. Duncan, Dallas
Largest Barracuda	Leon Younger, Odessa
Largest Red Snapper	W. D. Bozka, Pearland
2nd Red Snapper	N. E. Rhodes, Dallas
Largest Redfish	Red Walters, Freeport
2nd Redfish	Curtis Anderson, Jr., Clute
3rd Redfish	L. M. McBeth, Freeport
Largest Trout	Ed Levee, Freeport
2nd Trout	B. H. Carlton, Jr.
3rd Trout	Henry Maresh, Lake Jackson
Largest Flounder	E. O. Seidler, Lake Jackson
2nd Flounder	Mrs. J. S. McKinney, Freeport
Largest Gafftop	P. M. Winfrey, Freeport
2nd Gafftop	S. T. Minter, Freeport
Largest Sheephead	Mrs. E. C. Musek, Lake Jackson
2nd Sheephead	A. P. Coots, Freeport
Largest Crab (wt)	E. O. Seidler, Freeport
Largest Drum	Tommy Musek, Lake Jackson
Largest Croaker	Lamar Sanders, Danbury
Largest Gar	Glen Musek, Lake Jackson
Juvenile Division	
Largest Gar	Tommy Woodward, Lake Jackson
Largest Ling	Jointte Girard, Houston
Largest Amberjack	Ronnie Leard, Oklahoma City

Free-For-All

light Shakespeare rod and a Penn 109 reel, weighed 30 pounds 13 ounces, or about four pounds more than last year's winner.

This event is sponsored each year by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Fishing in the vicinity of Freeport usually is varied and heavy. It is estimated that 75 percent of the party boat fishing on the Texas coast is out of Freeport. In the early spring months tarpon fishing in the mouth of the Brazos is terrific.

While trout and red fish are plentiful, the close in reefs, including the car body reef installed by the Game & Fish Commission, are responsible for many king fish, Spanish mackerel, dolphins and lings.

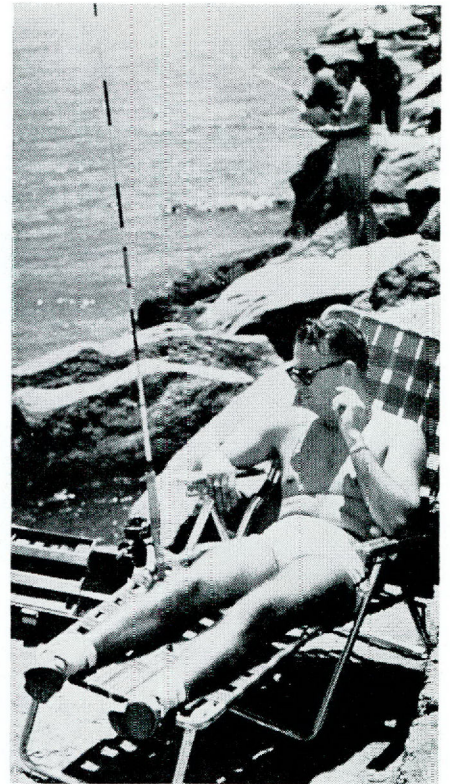
In good weather this king fishing water can be reached easily in out-board boats.

Here are the results of the Freeport tournament:

Weight	Boat
13oz	Clipper
2 1/2 oz	Jersey Lilly
8oz	Seawave
2oz	Gillie
3oz	Mustange
12oz	Clipper
12oz	Elizabeth F
12oz	Patti
8oz	Queen of Texas
4oz	Queen of Texas
5oz	Sea Gem
5oz	Bimbo
4oz	Roberta
5oz	Claudette C
6oz	Claudette C
15oz	
15 1/2 oz	
11oz	
7oz	
11oz	
9oz	
6oz	
4oz	
15oz	
7oz	
8 1/2 oz	
5oz	
8oz	
#	
4oz	O Siesta
15oz	Bimbo
1oz	



Rodney Shadwell of Jones Creek caught trout.



Just a take-it-easy fisherman on the jetties.



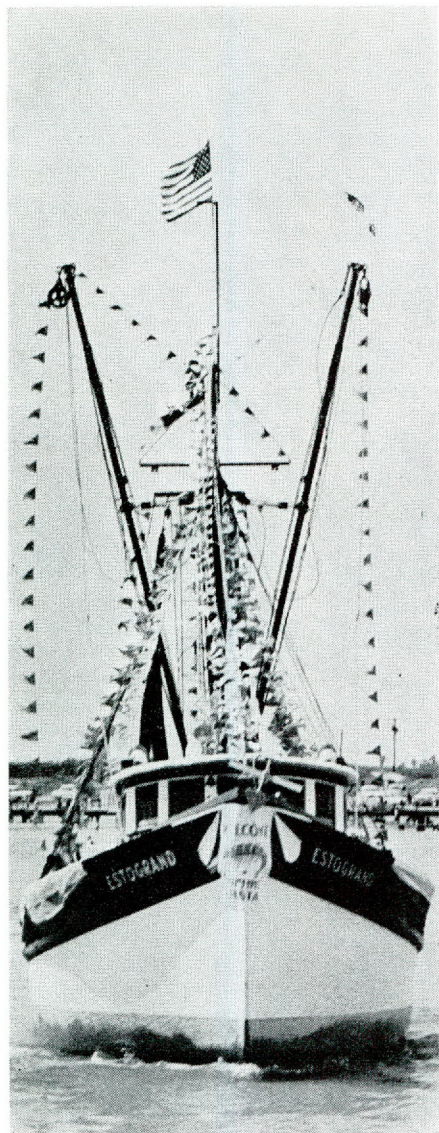
Camps like these dotted San Luis beach.



Mrs. C. J. Maxwell and Laura Flener of Houston.



The menfolk fish while mama gets a sun tan.



The Estogrand was judged most beautiful.

The Blessing of the Fleet

By CURTIS CARPENTER

ONLY GULL TALK could be heard along the channel, and the roar of an outboard motor in the distance. The shrimp fleet still slept as the early morning dew slowly coated the decks. It seemed no different than any other day except for the larger number of handsome shrimpers moored along the wharves. From the air they must have looked something like a log jam, with just enough space on the south side of the channel for a passing boat. Some of the boats hinted of the coming celebration with strings of bright colored flags running from turnbuckle to turnbuckle.

Just as the orange, morning sun popped through the Gulf of Mexico, Port Isabel came to life. It was fiesta day! Time for celebration! And time to ask God's blessings on the great shrimp fleet which drags the Gulf bottom from January through December.

The hardy fishermen, their families and all the people on shore concerned with the shrimping industry are proud of their fleet. The blessing of the fleet is one ceremony they look forward to each year. And it's no wonder that this colorful and holy event is held in such high esteem by the thousands of people who in some way depend on the fleet for room and board. No other state in the nation harvests as much shrimp as Texas. Over 300 trawlers costing several million dollars dock at Port Isabel and Brownsville. Some \$30,000,000 annually is paid to crews and others employed by the gigantic industry. And a dollar value could hardly be placed on the importance of the fleet to all of Texas, especially to the coastal areas.

By 8 a.m. boat crews were climbing all through the rigging decorating their boats for the big parade. By

noon most of the face lifting was complete. The big trawlers actually changed colors. In their unique fashion, they looked somewhat glamorous all decked out in their fiesta costumes. The captains, their crews and boat owners beamed proudly through sweat-glazed expressions. "Ours will surely take top honors," sounded through the silence.

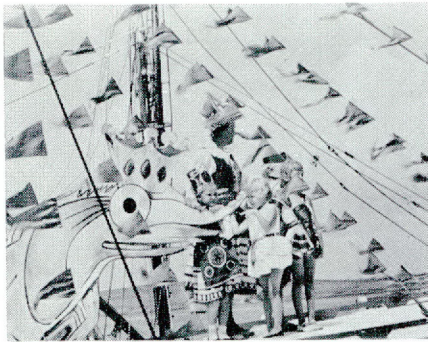
The clock struck four bells. Then there was a roar of engines as the two official boats lurched from the pier and headed down the channel toward the deepwater port a couple of miles away. The first boat carried the priest and his aids. The second carried Queen Bleakney and King Sexton, the 1961 Shrimp Fiesta Royalty. Other decorated boats fell in behind and the parade was on. Workboats, adorned only in their nets and trawls, moved into the procession until the line of boats stretched from one end of the long channel to the other.

Once at the port basin, the trawler carrying the religious group docked at a wharf on the west side. As each trawler passed, the priest asked God's blessing for it and its crews. The ritual consists of prayers by the clergy, beseeching God to bless the fishing vessels and protect the fishermen who sail in them as He protected the Ark of Noah and the greatest fisherman of all, Simon Peter, as he was sinking into the sea.

The custom, dating back to the Crusades, was brought to this country by early Portuguese sailors.

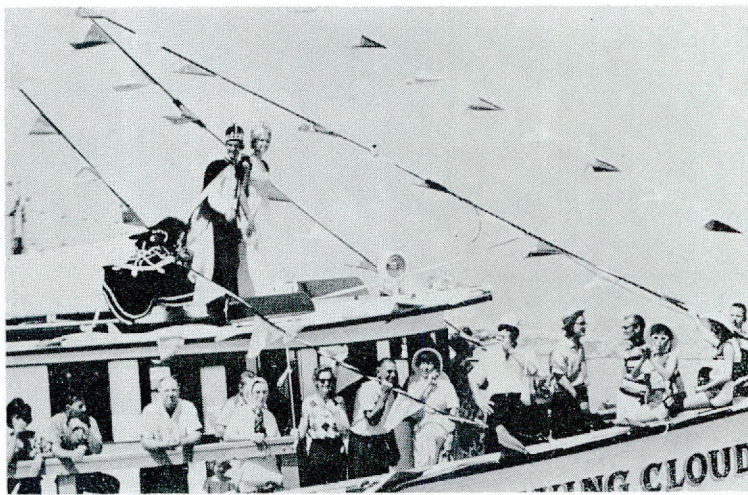
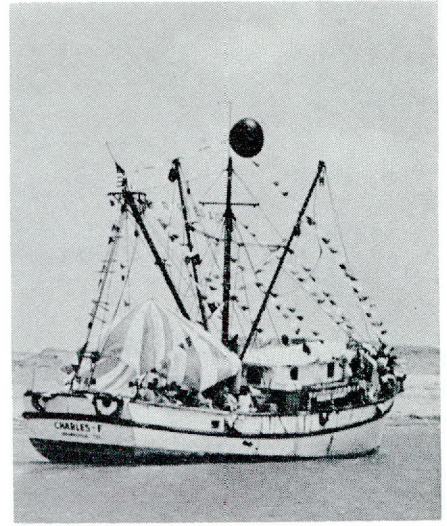
At one time, the deepwater port was packed with boats maneuvering around for a chance to pass and be blessed. Thousands of people lined the banks to glimpse the activity. According to reports, it was one of the most successful events of this type ever held in the area.

When the prayers ended, the roar of engines echoed across the water once more as the proud fleet headed full-speed for the Gulf in symbolic tradition. Then it was over for another year. The pennants came down. The colorful decorations were stowed away. That was July 2. Today, the fleet of trawlers probably is fast at work, searching the Gulf floor for shrimp, their crews and their families ashore, feeling much safer under the protection of prayer. **

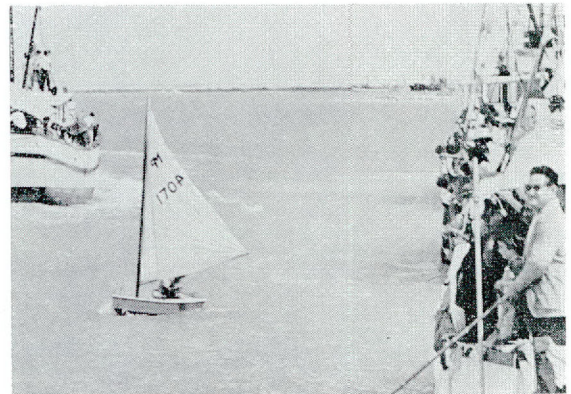


Some boat owners put lots of time and effort into glamorizing their craft. Surrounded with flags these youngsters hang on to a huge shrimp for protection.

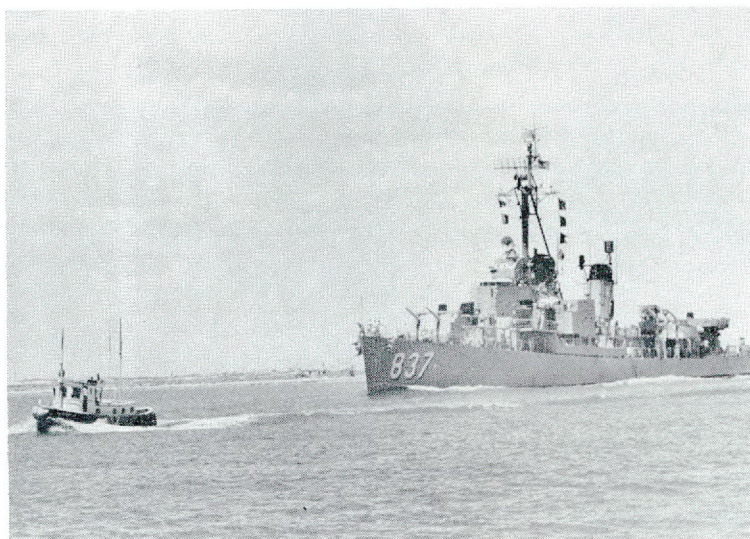
Constructed strictly for work, the big trawlers actually looked attractive with their makeup of banners, balloons and pennants.



King Harry M. Sexton, Jr., of Brownsville and Queen Susan Bleakney of Olmito, 1961 royalty, graced the Flying Cloud.

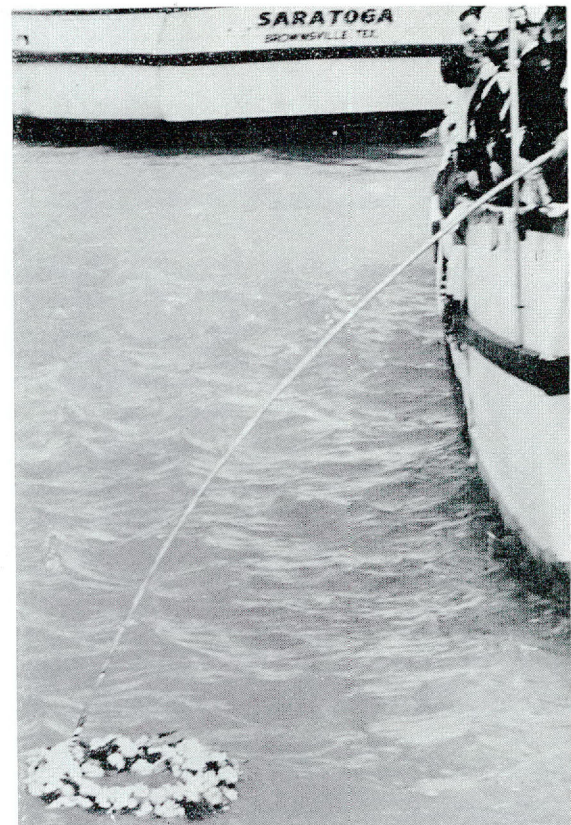


Not all boats receiving a blessing were large. This tiny sailboat was not overlooked as it tacked about for position.



U.S. Navy Destroyer, USS Sarsfield, docked at Port Isabel during the event and held open house on July 1 and 2.

Each year a wreath of flowers is tossed into the water in remembrance of those of the fleet who have lost their lives at sea. The trawlers of this day are very seaworthy and seldom are they sunk by storms.



A NEW FIELD was opened to Texas beagling at Giddings this April when members of the Cen-Tex Beagle Club put into affect a new idea, a Youth Trial. They decided to hold a regular small pack on cottontail trial run completely by youngsters under 19 years of age.

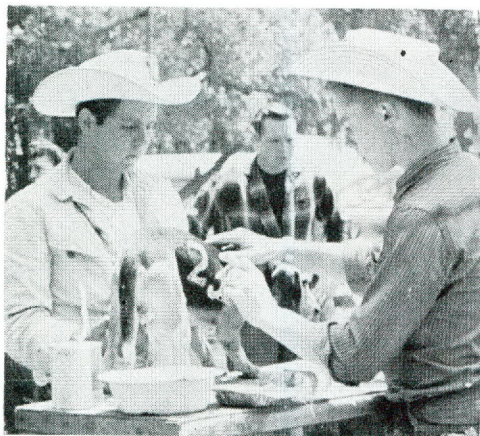
Judging, handling, painting identification numbers on dogs, measuring the hounds' heights (no dog over 15 inches may compete), and receiving entry fees were all done by youths, with the adults simply standing in the background. Pat Martin, 14, and I, 12, were appointed secretaries to deal with entry fees.

The 13-inch and under class, combining both males and females, began at noon Saturday, April 29. The winner of the class was Darling's Princess Sue, handled by Linda Dearing of Austin.

The 15-inch class, won by Witt's Lisa handled by Jimmy Wright, was run the following morning. Owners of first-place dogs received trophies, and handlers of first-place dogs received beagle puppies. All other places received ribbons.

Additional attractions were a puppy show held Saturday evening and a chili supper supplied by Dr. George Martin. Both adults and youngsters thought the trial so successful that they voted to make it an annual event.

The youth then formed their own club, the Cen-Tex Youth Club, and elected the following officers: Howard Dearing, Jr., president; Mike Martin, vice-president; Pat Martin, secretary; Diann Deason, assistant secretary. **



Youths painted yellow numbers on each hound as it was registered.

Little League Beagling

By DIANN DEASON



"Buddy" Stanford of San Antonio qualified with the lowest and the slowest.



Winners through fifth place pose with their handlers (kneeling) and judges (standing).

What Others Are Doing

by JOAN PEARSALL

THEY TREAT 'EM ROUGH: Any game law violator who thinks he's been ill-treated should reflect on these out-of-state cases. In Tennessee a man who illegally killed a deer was fined \$50 plus \$9.75 court costs and was then permanently relieved of his 1960 automobile and a 20-gauge shotgun used in the act. The auto was sold on bid and brought \$1,100. In south Dakota a man was convicted of transporting an untagged deer. His fine was \$100 plus \$9.70 court costs, and his 1960 station wagon was confiscated.

ANGELS AID ANGLERS: A group of cloistered Franciscan nuns in Ohio has gone into business making fishing lures, about 16 different kinds, sold under the name of St. Peter's Fishing lures. The funds obtained are used to aid the Great Fisherman's quest for souls. Each lure is sold with a built-in prayer that the user will be blessed with good fishing success—apparently on the assumption that some fishermen need the extra help.

DOGGONE IT!: A New Mexico conservation officer stopped to question a hunter whose actions appeared suspicious. During the interview the officer's dog jumped up on the fender of the hunter's pickup truck and set itself in a perfect "point," indicating the spare tire. The officer then asked the hunter if he had shot any quail and, confronted by the unmistakable attitude taken by the trained bird dog, the hunter admitted he had shot one. The spare tire harbored eight game birds, and the thoroughly subdued hunter was hustled off to court.

FISH THRIFT: Food costs per pound of fish raised in hatcheries operated by the Idaho Fish and Game Dept. have dropped from 32 cents a pound in 1957 to 25 cents a pound last year. Records for the past three years show that a change of fish foods from slaughter house by-products to dry pelleted diets is producing healthy trout from less feed.

SUBMARINE STUDY: Something new has been established in the way of nature trails. At the Virgin Islands National Park's Trunk Bay, a self-guided swimming trail has been developed complete with underwater plaques explaining the unusual features of the marine life in the surrounding waters. Using face plates and snorkel tubes, the swimmer is given opportunity to see and understand more about the many colorful species of fish and plant life in the coral reefs.

SPLASH LICENSE: North Dakota boating regulations require that a permit be obtained before any group may hold boat races, water carnivals and the like. The permit does not cost anything, but it is required in order to hold events on the water.

ANIMAL LOVERS?: Visitors from 39 states, Washington, D. C., three Canadian provinces, and seven other foreign countries visited the Blair Game Commission tourist station in Nebraska in just three weeks of operation. The big attraction is the animals, including deer, antelope, and a budding prairie dog town. Staffing the station are three college coeds.

TO TAKE MEDICINE LIKE A MAN: By a new law in New Hampshire, anyone over 16 who is accused of violating a law pertaining to hunting or the operation of motor boats may now be tried in the regular adult court instead of juvenile court. Formerly, only violations of motor vehicle and airplane operation statutes could be brought before the adult court before the subject reached 18. It was thought that youngsters who become old enough to have a license to use a gun or a motor boat without adult supervision, should at the same time accept the full responsibility for actions which endanger the lives or safety of others. If this is true for planes and automobiles, it should certainly be true in the other two categories.

TEXAS HUNTER

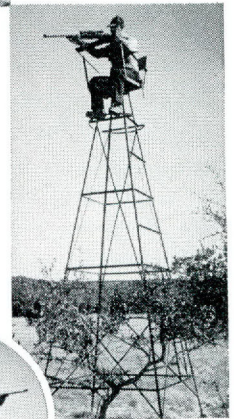


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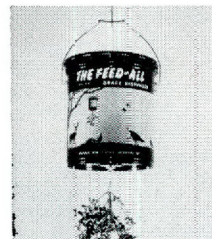
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GUNS



By L. A. WILKE

... and Shooting

This Month: SADDLE GUN

During the last two decades many rifles that were modern only a few years ago have gone into obsolescence.

But not the 94 Winchester. It just keeps going on and on. More than 2½ million of these reliable rifles have been punched out on the machines at Winchester plant and the model still is going strong.

I remember well back in 1927 when the millionth model 94 was presented to President Calvin Coolidge. And incidentally, it was advertised for sale recently by a gun collector.

The 2 millionth gun was presented to President Eisenhower on his 63rd birthday in 1953. The gun bearing the 2,500,000, however, will remain in possession of the company for future exhibition.

More model 94's have been built than any other one sporting gun in the history of the firearms industry. It is a direct lineal descendant of the famous Henry rifle and the Winchester "gun that won the west."

It was introduced in 1894 as the first sporting repeating action rifle ever built to handle smokeless powder. It first was made for .32-40 and

.38-55 calibers only. Then came the smokeless loads in .25-35 and the .30-30. A few years later the .32 Winchester special came along. Today the gun is made only in the .30 and the .32 calibers.

The early models had 24-inch octagon barrels. Today only the 20-inch carbine barrel is made in what is known as the "saddle gun." It is a great brush gun. But most it feels like a gun. It has gun appeal. You can have a dozen or more beautiful rifles in your case but just let any man walk into the room and pretty soon he gets around to the model 94.

Perhaps that is one of the reasons why Daisy modeled one of its best selling air rifles after this famous gun. Every small boy with a Daisy air rifle wants one that looks like dad's deer rifle.

Now Ithaca has produced a model '49 saddle gun, patterned in appearance after the model 94. That's where the similarity ends, however.

It breaks the price barrier for a single shot .22, costing only \$19.95.

The action is the single shot Martini type, with a short travel lever. It has an automatic rebounding ham-

mer safety, with exposed hammer. The rear sight is adjustable for personal targeting.

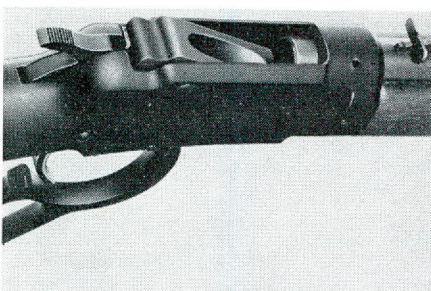
The gun is chambered for the full line of .22 rimfire regulars. It has an 18" round tapered blued steel barrel, with crowned muzzle and six groove button rifling. The gun is 34¼" overall in length and weighs about five pounds.

Although a single shot, it offers fast loading. With the Martini type block falls into place when the action is fully open. It is grooved so that a shell falls quickly into the chamber.

Although there have been numerous guns for the young shooter, this is the first one with the appearance of the real thing that has hit the market in a long time.

With its built-in safety features, its low price and general utility, it offers a real merchandising opportunity. Any man who owns a model 94 Winchester and who has a young son is likely to want this gun in a hurry.

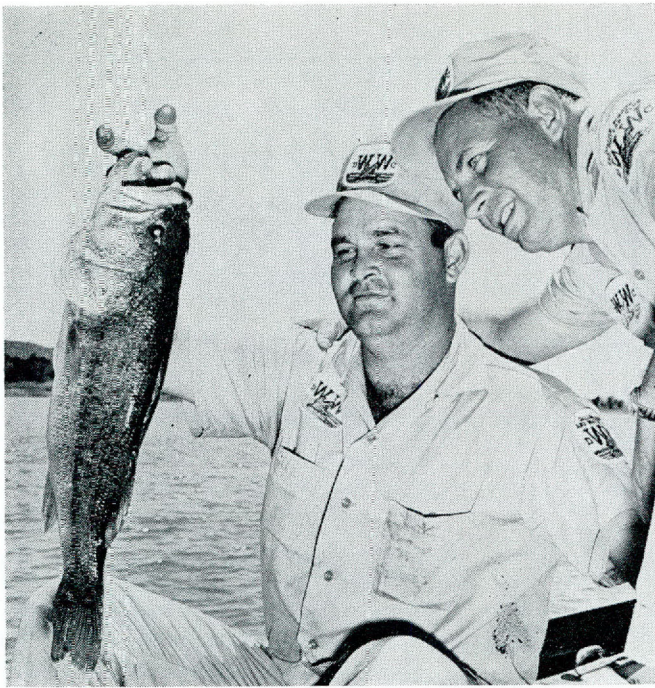
Since Ithaca is one of the oldest gun manufacturers, with a long record of gun excellence, it will be a dependable piece of merchandise. **



Ithaca's Martini-type action.



Ithaca's model 49 saddle gun.



Fred Burdette, left, and Bob Joyce with 5-pound bass.



Sonny Norrell, left, and J. W. Simmons had heaviest string.

THE FORT WORTH Anglers Club fared well in the SCOT Orphan's Fishing Tournament just concluded. Some 22 teams fished the finals at Possum Kingdom recently and the winners of the heaviest string division were J. W. Simmons and Sonny Norrell, of the Fort Worth Club. They had 15 pounds, 7 ounces of black bass when the tournament ended.

Heaviest fish award went to Bob Joyce and Fred Burdette of the Dallas Woods and Water Club for their bass weighing 5 pounds and 3 ounces.

J. D. Lagadinos and C. E. Weddle, also of the Fort Worth Club took second place in the heavy bass division with a 3-pound 14-ounce black. Charlie Elliott and Joe Aston grabbed second prize in the heaviest string

division, another pair of wins for the Fort Worth organization.

Charlie Hoel and Tracy Wood of the Arlington Sportsmens Club placed third in the heaviest stringer division with 7 pounds and 3 ounces.

All the money raised through entry fees in the tournament will be used by the Sportsmens Clubs of Texas to take underprivileged children fishing. **

These baits should help you put fish on the table

Ol' King Cat

From Page 17

or on roof is fine. But shade is preferred. Let dry 36 hours or until they rattle like dry pea hulls when dropped. Place in a larger can or jar. Add two tablespoons salt (to prevent spoiling), 1/2 cup baking powder. Stir well before grinding all in a food chopper. Grind up a few minnows first to see if they are dry enough to form a thick dough. The dough should be thick enough to wad on a three-way hook. If too mushy let dry more. If bait is too dry add oil from can of sardines, or plain water will do. But go easy on the oil or water. A little goes a long ways here. If bait is too soft, work plain flour in until bait suits you. Use on three-way hook.

This is for pole and line or rod and works best in early spring and late fall. However it is good the year round for channel and blue cats.

Personally I have never taken a flathead cat on this bait but I know others that have had great success. Other fish or turtles seldom ever bite it. It seems to be strictly for catfish.

These baits and techniques should help you put fish on the table. I am just another catfishing fool and don't claim to know all the tricks. And like most fishermen, I fail at times but I don't give up. So if you don't catch fish, blame the weather, bait or politics (it helps to relieve the temper). Whatever you do, keep after them. ***

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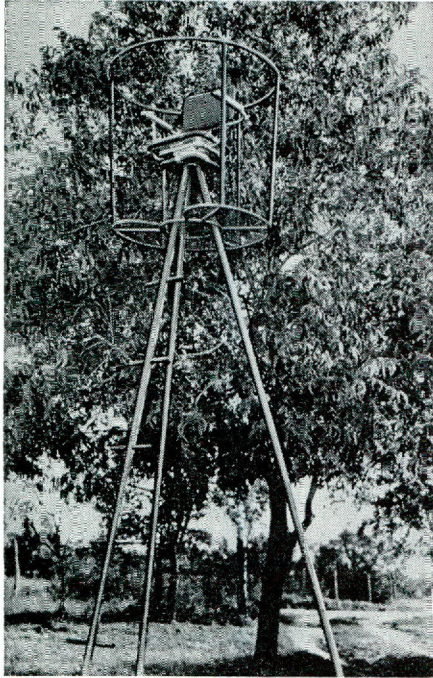
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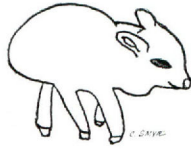
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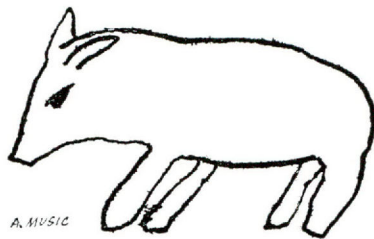
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A Theme on the PECCARY

By DONNA GIVERMAN



The peccary looks a lot like a hog. It is very wild. A peccary runs in the woods. A peccary roots in the ground. A peccary eats vegetables and roots. They tan a peccary's skin and make gloves out of them. It is protected by the game department. You must by hunting licenses before you kill a peccary. You must only kill two peccarys a year. A peccary is so wild it will bit you. If you get in a peccarys way it will bit you but if it does not see you it cannot bit you. The hoofs on a peccary's front foot is 1½ inches long. The hoofs on a peccary's back foot is 1¼ inches long. A peccary's legs are short. A peccary is fury. The peccary has a square nose. A peccary does not have a tail.



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In less than 10 years both areas were normal

Water Table _____ From Page 7

retained until it had time to soak into the ground. Vegetation began to appear around the small watersoaked spots and then spread over the entire acreage. From that time on nature took over the job of holding back the natural precipitation and storing it underground. In less than ten years from the time these corrective measures were applied both areas were pretty well back to normal; Soil erosion has been stopped entirely, springs are flowing again, vegetation is luxuriant, the birds and mammals, prairie chickens, ducks, sage grouse, and antelope have returned in great numbers to live and multiply. Productive life is again possible for both wildlife and man and even the reappearance of local summer showers on those restored areas threatens to upset the mental comfort of those who denied that the ground water table could possibly have anything to do with the amount of rainfall. **

RECOMMENDED READING

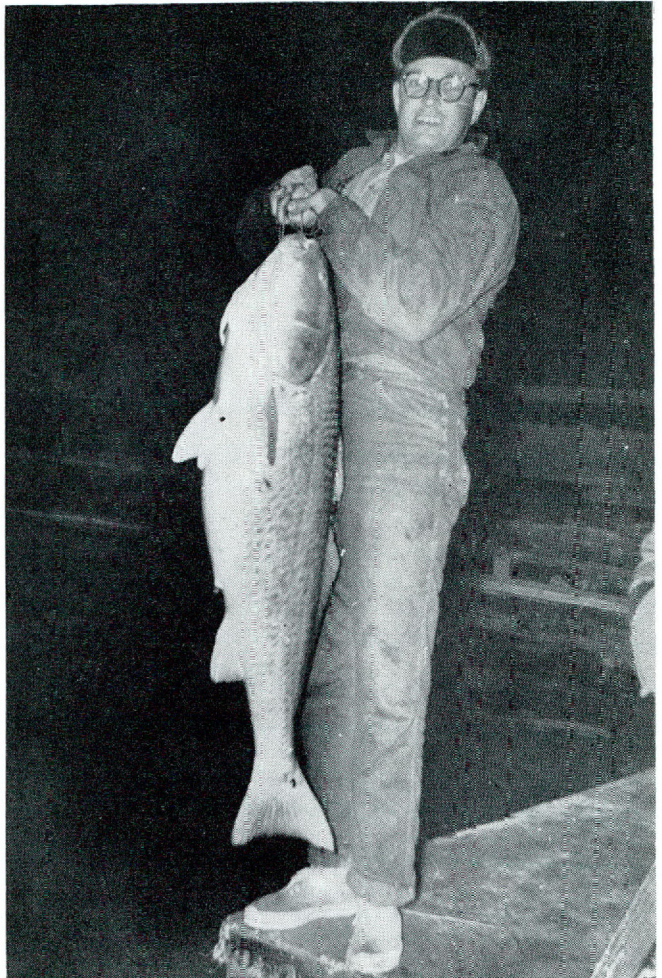
OUR GROWING WATER PROBLEMS—R. G. Lynch. Rev. 1959. Write to National Wildlife Federation, 232 Carroll St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

WATER, LAND AND PEOPLE—Bernard Frank and Anthony Netboy. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., New York, N. Y.

WATER FOR AMERICA—Edward H. Graham and William R. Van Dersal. Oxford University Press, New York.

Alewife, a member of the herring family, is used for oil and in feed products.

A new redbfish, or channel bass, record for 10-pound test line, was set recently on the Texas Coast when R. E. Bob Robinson landed a 44 1/4-pounder on the north jetties near Galveston. At right Robinson beams proudly as he lifts his fish high for the photographer. Surf fishing, as well as the jetties fishing, provides some good catches of big reds all along the coast. But, not many above 40 pounds are landed on any kind of line.



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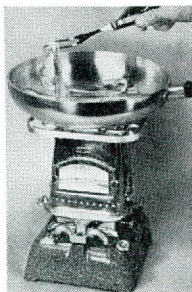
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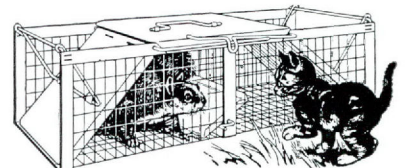
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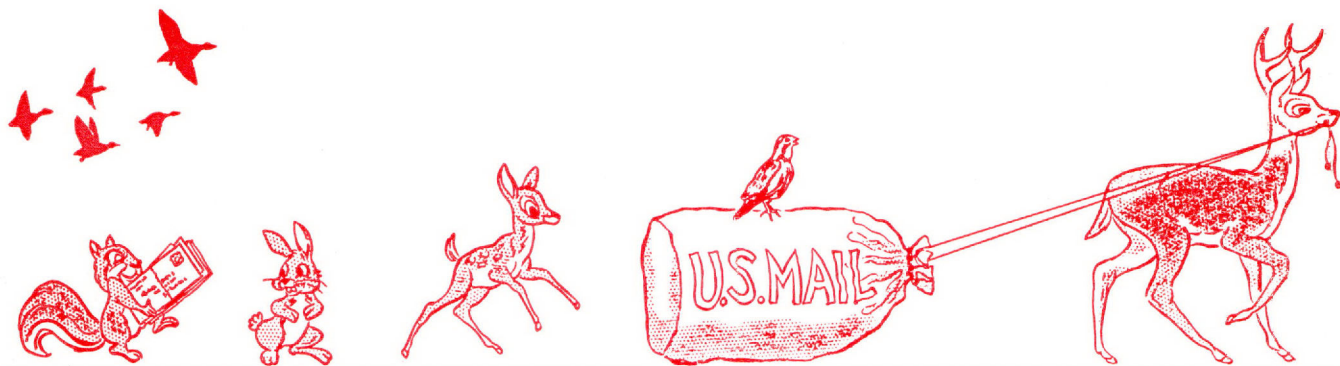
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Flying Spiders

Editor:

I think your magazine is one of the greatest. Our good friends from Victoria were at our house and enjoyed your magazine, so we gave them a few of the older copies. They now are subscribers to your wonderful magazine and enjoy it very much.

While our friends were at a deer lease in a stand they saw a spider go from one tree to another far away without there being anything in between the two trees. We were wondering how the spider made it from one tree to another without there being a web or anything between. How does he walk on air?

I'm in the tenth grade and I go to El Campo High School.

Jeanette Chovanec
El Campo

(Your friends must have seen a spider ballooning from one place to another. In her book *The Story of Spiders*, Dorothy Shuttlesworth discussed the matter fully:

"Ballooning is a strange and wonderful example of animal instinct. Let us picture a group of spiderlings just freed from their egg sac. It would seem a real problem for them to explore the territory about them, for each to find a suitable home; but they find a way to disperse so that they are not overcrowded. Quietly, each makes its way to a high point on a weed or fence; there it faces the direction from which a breeze is blowing, stretches out its legs to the fullest extent, and tilts its abdomen upward. At once silk threads are drawn from the spinnerets by air currents, and they continue to stream out until the pull on the thread is strong enough to support the spider. Now the little creature loosens its hold on its perch and is pulled up into space to be air-borne toward some new area.

"While ballooning is carried out during much of the year, it is largely an occurrence of the spring and fall when great numbers of spiderlings are coming out of their egg sacs. Because of their light weight, little spiders sometimes find themselves ballooning when they have no reason to do so; even some larger spiders may find themselves at the mercy of the breezes as the silk threads with which they are working carry them upward. This apparently is caused by a steady upward

current of air from the warmed earth—a current strong enough to give altitude to a length of silk attached to an almost weightless bit of animal life. Small adult spiders also make a practice of ballooning.")

Badgering Snakes

Editor:

I enjoy your magazine very much and wish every man in Texas read it. I was born in Texas in 1889 and have lived in most parts of the state.

I think the J. Frank Dobie game conservation in Live Oak Country a grand idea. I am a personal friend of Willie and Roy Hinnant, mentioned in the article.

In the "badger" article, the author failed to mention that badgers eat rattlesnakes. I have seen them eating them and my brother-in-law, the late J. T. Dinn of Bruni, Texas, told me he had seen badgers kill large rattlers. Mrs. Dinn watched a paisano kill a 14-inch rattler in her front yard last summer.

Wishing you success with the magazine.

Tom Holmes, Sr.
Jasper

Big Bee Hive

Editor:

The above picture was taken on the Garrett Ranch between Danbury and Liverpool, Texas, in 1956.



This bee hive was approximately four feet above the ground on the end of a long limb of a live oak tree.

It is the first time I have ever seen a hive in the open, so thought you might be interested.

My whole family enjoys the magazine very much.

G. H. Kimbrell
Bellaire

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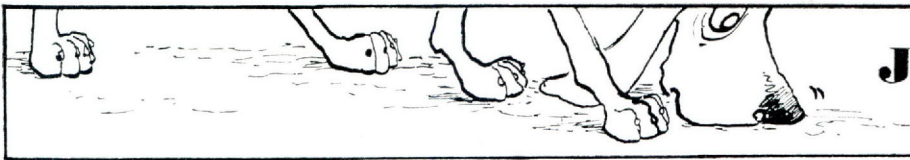
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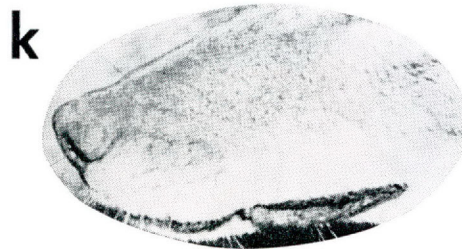
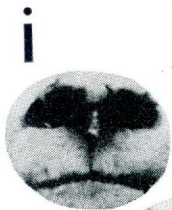
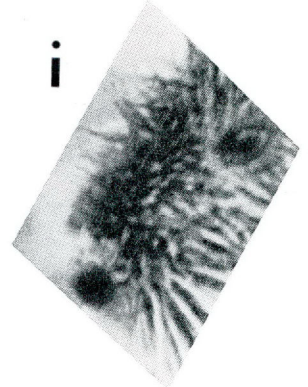
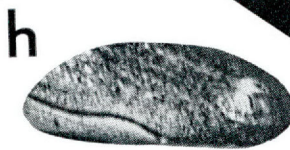
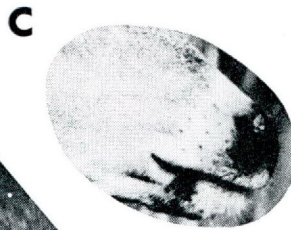
KNOW THESE NOSES?

By CAROLYN SMYRL

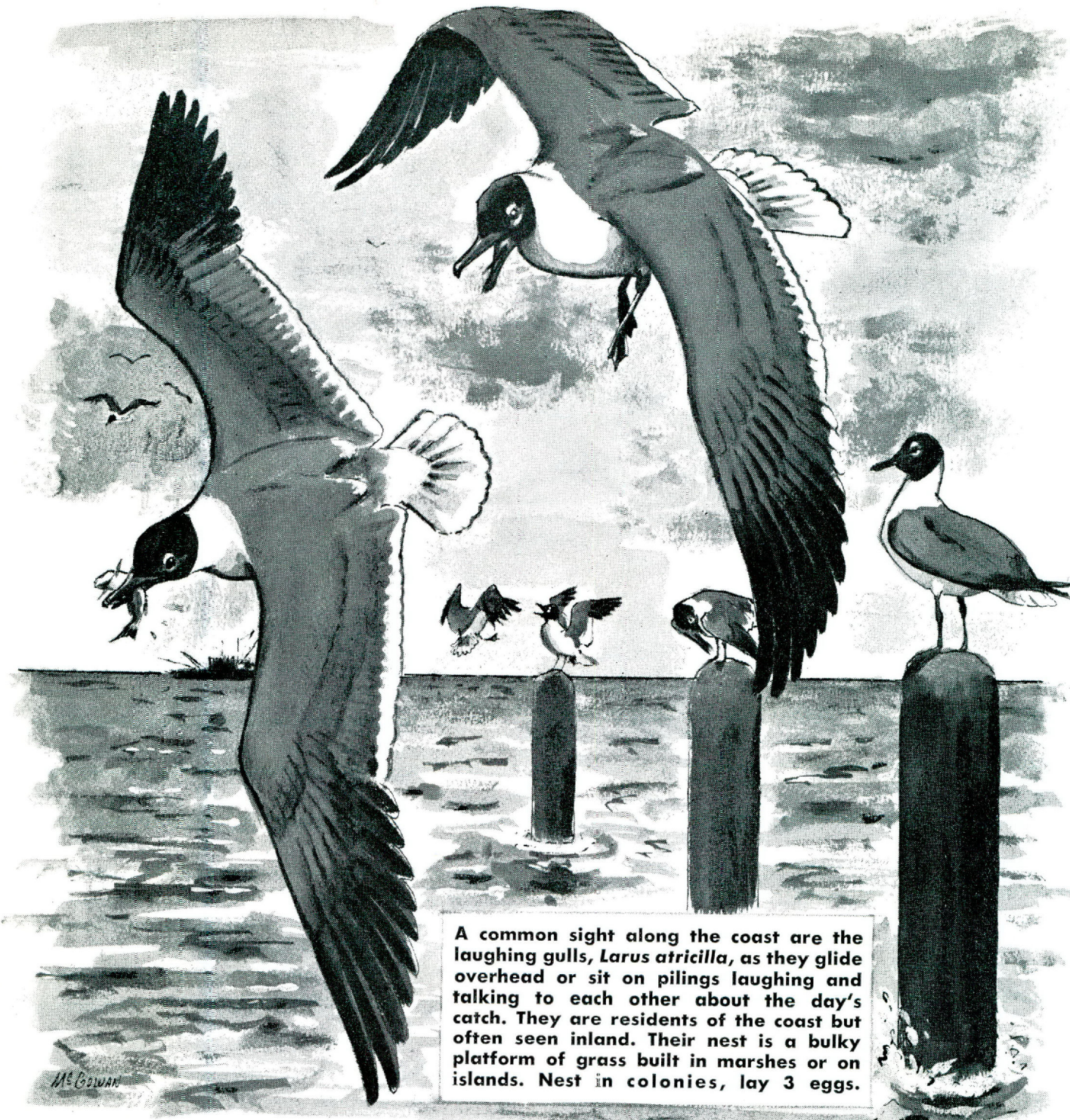
Recognize these animals? See if you can identify them from the parts of their faces shown. Below is a list of 20 animals, of which 13 can be found on this page. Mark your answers in the blanks to the left of the names, before peeking at the answers at the bottom of the page.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| _____ moose | _____ elk |
| _____ opossum | _____ gar |
| _____ beaver | _____ bighorn sheep |

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| _____ bobcat | _____ badger |
| _____ coyote | _____ fox |
| _____ alligator | _____ nutria |
| _____ muskrat | _____ ringtail |
| _____ rat | _____ deer |
| _____ monkey | _____ jackrabbit |
| _____ pronghorn | _____ javelina |



- a. badger
 b. pronghorn
 c. deer
 d. jackrabbit
 e. javelina
 f. ringtail
 g. fox
 h. alligator
 i. nutria
 j. bighorn sheep
 k. coyote
 l. beaver
 m. elk



A common sight along the coast are the laughing gulls, *Larus atricilla*, as they glide overhead or sit on pilings laughing and talking to each other about the day's catch. They are residents of the coast but often seen inland. Their nest is a bulky platform of grass built in marshes or on islands. Nest in colonies, lay 3 eggs.

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