

# Texas Game and Fish

MARCH

1962

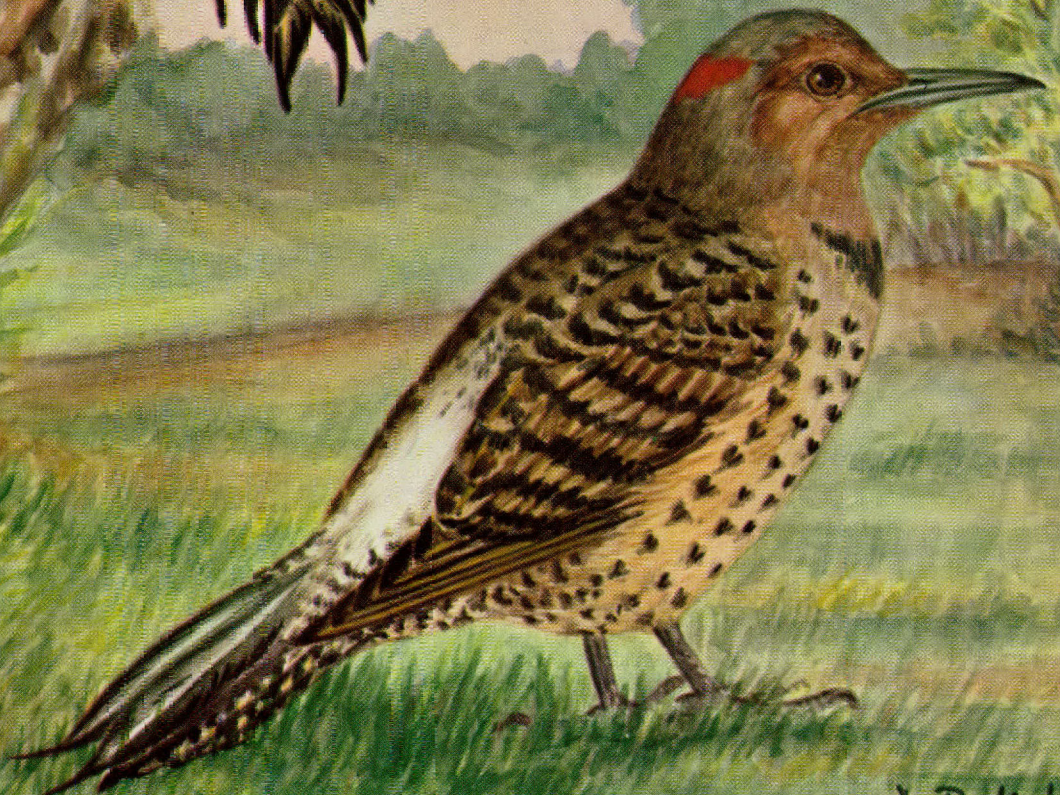
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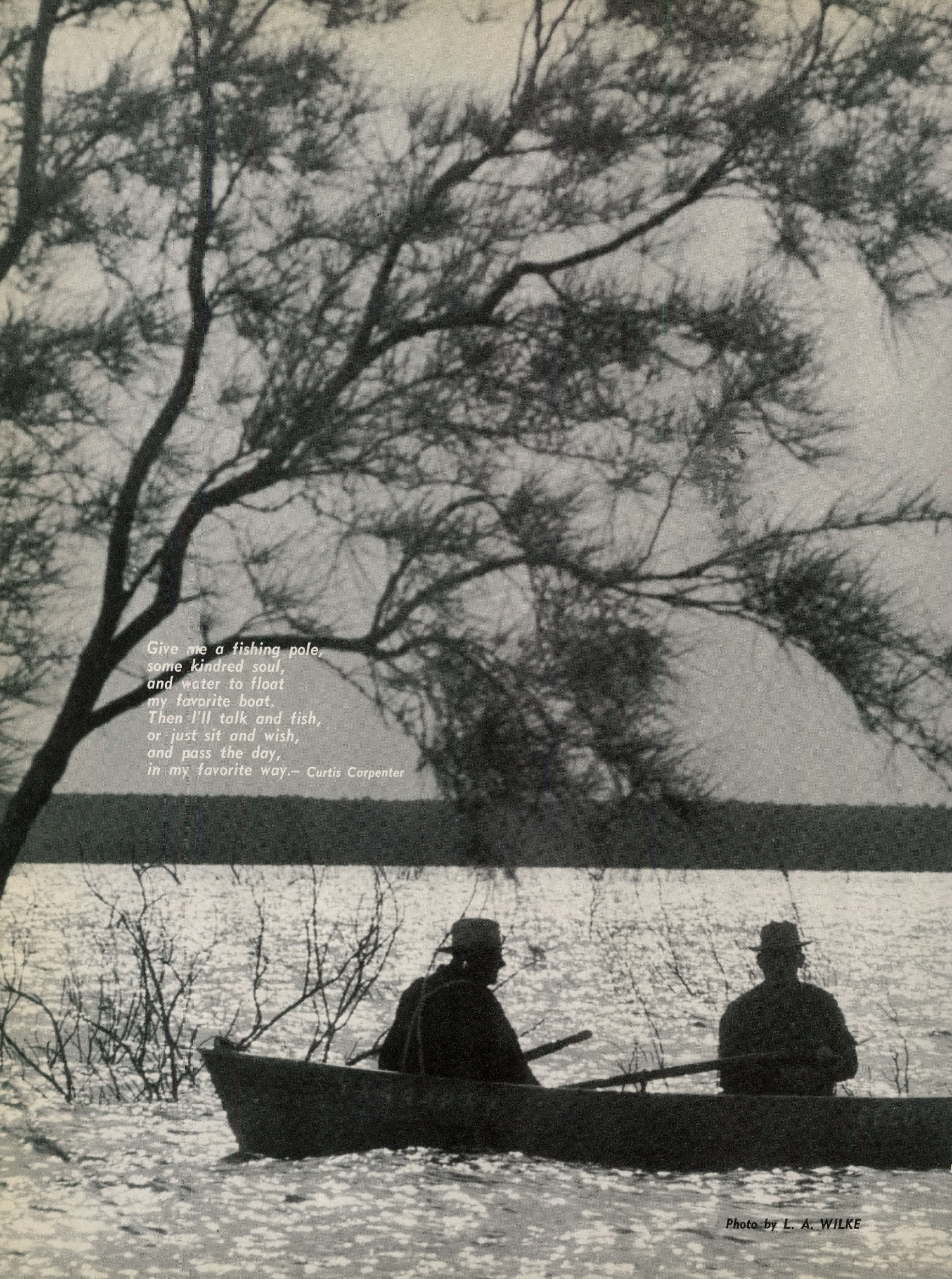
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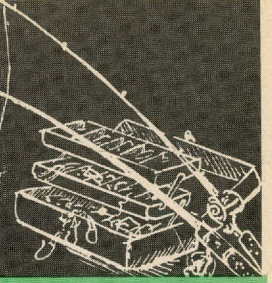
A black and white photograph capturing a serene scene on a body of water. In the foreground, the dark, intricate branches of a tree frame the top and left sides of the image. Below, a calm lake reflects the light. In the middle ground, two fishermen are silhouetted against the water, sitting in a small boat. They are wearing hats and appear to be engaged in conversation or fishing. The background shows a dense line of trees on the far shore under a bright sky. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

*Give me a fishing pole,  
some kindred soul,  
and water to float  
my favorite boat.  
Then I'll talk and fish,  
or just sit and wish,  
and pass the day,  
in my favorite way.— Curtis Carpenter*

Photo by L. A. WILKE



# Long shots Short casts



**SAGE ESSAYIST:** The National Wildlife Federation has announced the publication of "Count Down to Survival," a collection of 12 editorial essays by Ernest Swift, conservation advisor and former executive director of the organization. Publication was made possible by voluntary contributions in return for Wildlife Conservation stamps. Single copies of the booklet may be had free by writing the Educational Servicing Section, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Additional copies are 25c each. Swift, who rose from a game warden in Wisconsin to a position of national prominence in the field of conservation, has prompted widespread comment from his thought-provoking editorials.

**TAKES A WEIGHTY WALLET:** The U. S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare estimates it will cost American taxpayers about \$600 million per year for the next ten years to halt water pollution from municipal wastes. This amount will provide for future population growth, up-date now outmoded treatment works and eliminate the current backlog of construction. During the last five-year period, grants authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1956 helped 2,746 communities begin construction of plants worth \$1,293,000,000. Of this total, federal funds amounted to \$225 million, or 17 per cent, while the balance came from local sources. Communities of less than 50,000 persons received 87 per cent of the federal grants and built 94 per cent of the projects.

**THEY'LL GO LIKE A SHOT:** If you want to know how to organize a rifle or pistol club, write the National Rifle Association, Program Division, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. They issue two booklets, "How to Organize a Senior Rifle Or Pistol Club," and "How to Organize a Junior Rifle Club," for those under 19 years of age.

**DUCKIEST DESIGN:** A black-and-white wash drawing showing two pintail drakes coming in for a landing will be the design for the 1962-63 Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp. For the first time in the history of the annual contest, the same artist has won for two consecutive years. Emphasis on "Let 'Em Come In Close" and "Be Sure Before You Shoot" were special requirements for this year's contest. The winning design was selected from 124 drawings. This will be the 29th stamp of the Federal duck stamp series, which began in 1934. It is the fourth stamp of the \$3 series.

**BOAT ABUNDANCE:** There are an estimated 8 million pleasure boats in the United States at present. At least 2,455,119 are registered in the various states and another 5 1/2 million are not registered.

**BRUSH OFF:** A dramatic story in the great plains is the counter-march against brush. As brush gets the upper hand, grass output goes down. Millions of acres of rangelands have been put almost out of action by it. In Texas, mesquite has been strangling grass on around 55,000,000 acres, and juniper, yucca and scrub oak have moved in on a lot more. Effective ways of counter-attack are rootplowing, aerial spraying, and tearing the brush out with heavy chains. Ranchers treated 311,806 acres in their battle with the brush in 1961, and their grass now is producing three or four times the forage they used to get. Game seems to adapt to the new conditions, and some ranchers are leaving a part of the brush stands for the benefit of wildlife.

**THEY'LL TAKE THE HINT:** Unexcavated places under houses, and the space under porches, often become ideal retreats for skunks and other animals. A good way to get rid of them is to liberally spread a repellent in the burrow and on the ground around. Ten pounds of moth ball flakes per application will often do the trick, or cloths saturated in a preparation of one ounce of oil of mustard, a half-gallon of water and several teaspoons of household detergent. This is very penetrating but loses its kick in several days. It may be all that's needed, however, to get the animal to move on.

# Texas Game and Fish

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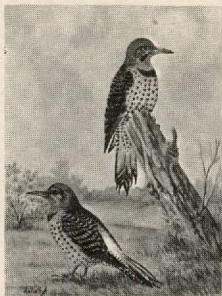
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## The Cover



The fragrance of flowers and chirping of birds signal the coming of sunny days. Anne Marie Pulich managed to capture the pastels of spring in her painting of the yellow-shafted flicker on this month's cover. This large brown bird, identified by its bobbing flight, white rump, golden wing linings and black breast band, is often observed hunting ants on the ground. About 12-13 inches long, the female and young similar, but adult female lacks black mustache at base of bill.

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.

MARCH, 1962

Vol. XX, No. 3

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# A Good Hunt

**A** DEER HUNT QUESTIONNAIRE was inserted in each issue of our January magazine, requesting information about the deer killed last season. Many newspapers and other publications ran this same questionnaire.

Several thousand readers answered the questions presented and returned the questionnaires to the magazine headquarters here in Austin. Hundreds of the responses poured into the office each day for several days.

Some readers just filled in the blocked off spaces with the exact statistics of their harvest. The majority, however, included much more information. They actually wrote letters or sent in remarks about their hunting success last season.

These comments are very interesting. Together they tell a story of Texas deer hunting, and can be quite valuable to those who have the responsibility of providing adequate game for the sportsmen.

One of the replies stands out well in the great mountain of yellow sheets. It was from a young boy who told about the two deer he had killed; his first and second. Then as an afterthought, he wrote: "My dad killed two bucks, too."

I was just 13 when I killed my first buck. I was using a borrowed gun, hunting in a neighbor's pasture when I jumped several deer. I fired and one fell. It was an accidental shot, I know, but I was mighty proud of it.

With that memory, I felt good about the boy who killed his deer and then nonchalantly remarked that his dad had killed a couple, also.

Many questionnaires had been filled in by boys and girls, and quite a number of the remainder by women.

It was interesting to note the number of fact sheets which came from entire families. Many of these listed the deer killed and indicated whether they were shot by the father, mother, son or daughter. One man wrote that each member of his family had killed a buck and a doe. "We didn't take our bonus deer this year because there wasn't enough room in the freezer."

Game department employees are busy checking landowner records of last season's deer harvest. Available information indicates it will be far heavier than any in the history of Texas, deer capital of the U. S. A. Before long we'll know the approximate harvest, and the remaining population. Apparently the deer herds survived the winter without much of a die off.

In the mass of replies there were many kind expressions concerning hunting, the landowners and the Game and Fish Commission. Naturally, there were a few gripes.

The number who got free hunting was surprising. Also, there were others who admitted paying \$100 a gun, without complaining. Some few who didn't get a deer were unhappy. Some got deer that were in a poor condition. Nearly all who reported had something to say about their areas being overrun with does.

In general, it was a happy year for thousands of deer hunters. And when the hunters are content, so are we here at the Texas Game and Fish Commission.

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

**M**OST OF THE DEER harvested in Texas during the past season were fat and healthy and the majority of them were killed before noon. These two facts stand out in a review of the questionnaires distributed through TEXAS GAME AND FISH magazine and printed in newspapers over the state during the month of January.

Over four thousand questionnaires were returned properly filled in by hunters. Only about one third of these has been tabulated, but they are indicative of a hunter success reported throughout the state.

Questionnaires came back from hunters in 138 of the state's 254 counties. This places Texas far in the lead on deer production and deer harvest, both from the standpoint of the state at large and the total number of counties where deer hunting is available. It had been previously estimated that Texas had two million deer for its 10 million population, and that 200,000 of them would be harvested during the past hunting season. Conservation departments in other states estimated that they harvest up to 25% of their annual deer population. If the Texas figures hold true, the harvest in this state would be closer to 10%.

An interesting feature of the information returned on the questionnaires concerned the number of women and minors participating in last season's hunt. Many questionnaires contained information on two



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Women were well represented in the fields the past deer season. Here, Mrs. B. F. Poetker proudly displays her prize buck.

or more members of a family. Although more bucks were killed by men, the reports indicated that more big deer were taken by women.

Numerous newspaper clips and photographs were sent in to substantiate the accuracy of women with rifles. The same was true of the boys and girls, ranging from six years up. Most of the juveniles were in the 10 to 15-year bracket. These youngsters, for the most part, shoot .222 and .243 calibers. However, many in the 12 and 14 year age group got their deer with .30-30 and .30-06 calibers. Although most of the youngsters got does, quite a few took home some good heads. Those who hunted for the first time invariably mentioned killing of does. Many others mentioned that they had killed does last year, and went out for trophies this year.

Anyone who has believed all along that the size of the antlers has something to do with the weight of the deer could get interesting information by studying these kill reports. Although there were a few 12-point-

ers weighing upwards of 150 pounds, there were just as many large deer with fewer than 8 points. Figures indicate that deer weighing right at 100 pounds were from two to four points. On the other hand, there were a number of deer weighing from 70 to 100 pounds, with from six to eight points. Comparatively few really small bucks were taken, although there was one two-pointer that weighed only 25½ pounds.

Another interesting fact came out in the study of these reports. Apparently, most of the deer were killed in the forenoon, and many of them fairly early in the morning. Some of this might be attributed to the hunting habits of various individuals who generally like to get on the stand early. Those who mentioned the manner in which they shot their deer indicated that early kills and late kills were from stands.

Although a number of hunters claimed to have seen deer wounded by others, very few admitted having failed to get a deer he shot. In fact, a preponderance of the hunters



# Deer Hunt

by L. A. WILKE

TEXAS GAME AND FISH



Numerous big bucks were taken by hunters during the 1961-62 season, such as this one, killed by Robert Gunn.

claimed fatal neck and shoulder shots, with the deer falling in their tracks or covering very little territory after being shot.

Comments from the hunters on shooting and conditions varied greatly. For instance, one hunter said there were too many deer in the pasture where he hunted and that he killed two does at a distance of 30 yards, yet both of these does were shot in the hams. A few reported 300 and 400 yards shots, especially in the Trans-Pecos area.

Comments were wide as to hunting leases. A number said they paid \$100 per gun and had been hunting on the same lease for a number of years, and were well satisfied. A few

who paid this price protested. A number of hunters who were on day leases likewise made loud protests of the higher priced leases, although very few on day leases complained that they had difficulty in getting a deer. The smallest lease reported was for 17 acres, where a party of six paid \$25 each for hunting privileges, and each killed a deer. The area was not described.

Some of the hunters were very critical of landowners making charges for hunting on their property. Others praised landowners for their cooperation, and felt that the landowner should be entitled to collect a fee for entering the property. Some hunters indicated confusion

over the use of doe tags, particularly on "bonus" deer. There were numerous suggestions made for a different method of taking doe for another hunting season.

One hunter reported that he had been hunting for 10 years and hadn't killed a deer as yet, but he plans to go again next year.

A number of reports were received from hunters who drew permits to hunt on the Game and Fish Commission management areas. Most of these hunters expressed a wish that more public land might be available for such hunting. Many others in writing requested that their names be included in the hat for next year's drawings. This will be impossible to do at the present time. If public hunt permits are issued again this fall, ample announcements will be made throughout the state, by press, radio and TV.

Apparently, very few hunters camped out. With ample deer for harvest in most of the counties of the state, it was possible for hunters to drive to and from leases without the necessity of camping. The exception to this was in the Trans-Pecos country. Here, some hunters camped out but others stayed in motels at the nearby towns, or in the homes of ranchers where they were guests. In this latter classification, there was a surprising number of hunters who said they got their deer as guests of the landowners, and paid no fee.

The method of hunting varied, with perhaps most of the hunters reporting deer taken from stands. Others rattled up their deer. A number said they found their deer while riding over the ranges.

Analysis of the questionnaires was very interesting, and all connected with this work found it fascinating because of the exciting experiences described by the hunters. \*\*

# s Report

Read what some of the hunters say, on Page 27



Pick 'em up...move 'em out...



# Rawhides

by CURTIS CARPENTER

**P**ACK 'EM UP, SHIP 'EM OUT. This sounds a little like the cry of a TV trail boss, but it's not. However, it might well be the motto of the Bayshore Rod, Reel and Gun Club out of Baytown. They have been concerned with rawhides, namely raw deer hides. As a matter of fact, they recently delivered about 1600 hides to Austin taxidermist, Lem Rathbone, for processing into tanned leather.

Once the hides are tanned, they will be turned over to T. D. Weaver, chairman of the State Volunteer Council, to be used by patients in state hospitals and special schools as a part of the rehabilitation program.

The Baytown club first accepted the invitation of SCOT early in 1960 to participate in the collection of green deer hides for the handicapped. During the first season,

Eddie Huron and W. B. Thompson successfully obtained some 500 hides.

These same two men, along with the help of others, according to Grover Edge, club president, managed to triple that number this past season. "The local sportsmen have cooperated fully," reported Edge, "and the packing plants have stored the hides without charge. We expect to collect even larger quantities of hides this next season."

On January 19, at about 3 p.m. four trucks came rolling through downtown Austin. Each was loaded with deer hides. They had traveled all the way from Baytown to deliver the much needed material to the Austin Taxidermist Studio at 2708 South Lamar.

On hand to greet the caravan were numerous newsmen and fellow SCOT members, including the president, Henry LeBlanc. Weaver was

present to accept the hides in behalf of the Volunteer Council.

In 1960, about 5,000 square feet of tanned leather was made available to the state hospitals and special schools. From this leather, handicapped patients produced numerous fine garments and accessories and received some valuable healing therapy.

Any organization that collects and presents such desperately needed materials should be commended. And the locker plants and express companies who make it possible to store and transport these hides are to be praised for their good deed.

For an insight on how the hides are used and the products of all the efforts that go into this project see the November issue of TG&F.

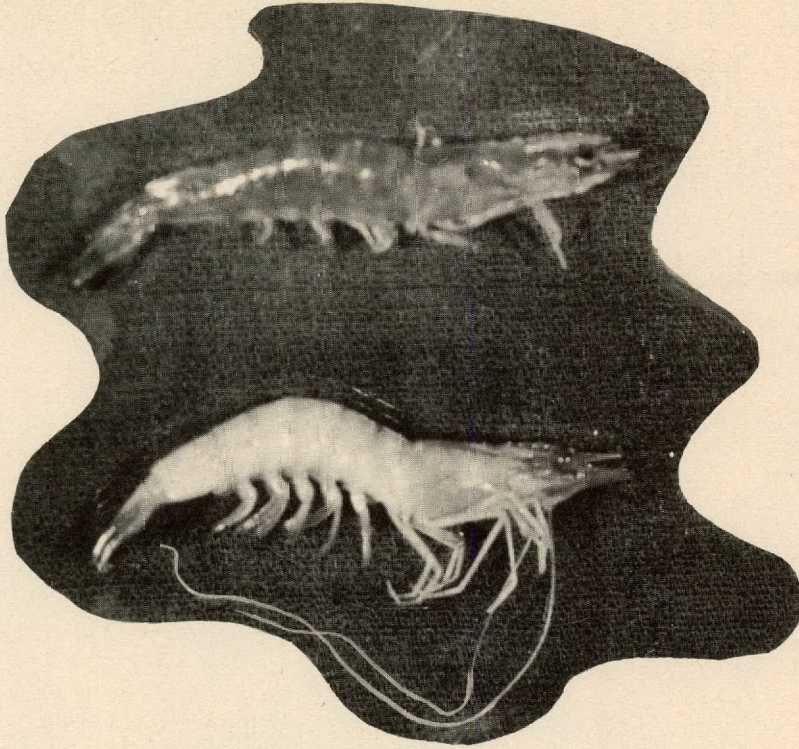
In the meantime if you have any rawhides lying around, pack 'em up and ship 'em out. \*\*



At right are members of the Bayshore Rod, Reel and Gun Club who delivered the hides to Austin. From left are Troy Casey, H. O. Wells, G. M. Norris, H. W. Ornsbee, Eddie Huron and C. F. Center. At left are T. D. Weaver, Lem Rathbone and Grover Edge, and load of deer hides in foreground.







by RAY CHILDRESS  
Marine Biologist

Above, normal shrimp.  
Below, cotton shrimp.

# Cotton Shrimp

**S**HRIMP BOAT CREWS frequently find among their catch shrimp that have a milky white discoloration of the entire body. These are commonly called "Cotton" shrimp or "Milk" shrimp because their opaque whiteness contrasts so much with the transparency of the normal individual.

The "Cotton" shrimp are of the common commercial brown (*Penaeus aztecus*) or white shrimp (*Penaeus setiferous*) species, which are infected with a protozoan parasite. The protozoans are tiny single-celled animals too small to be seen with the eye. The specific protozoans in-

fecting the shrimp are of the Order *Microsporidia* (meaning small-egg producers). Two different organisms have been found in the brown and white shrimp as parasites producing the characteristic "Cotton" shrimp. They are *Nosema nelsoni* and *Thelohania penaei*. Examination of the white opaque tissue of the "Cotton" shrimp under a microscope will reveal enormous numbers of spores or "eggs" in the flesh causing the discoloration.

There is no apparent damage to the individuals infected with this parasite, but there is considerable economic loss to the shrimping crews

and shrimp dealers. These shrimp are discarded by the processing plants or by federal shrimp inspectors. Few people would be willing to eat such a discolored shrimp for fear of infection or poisoning; actually no hazard exists.

These discolored individuals are occasionally seen in packaged bait shrimp. The white discoloration is especially noticeable after being frozen for long periods of time. \*\*

Sprague, Victor 1950  
*Notes on Three Microsporidian Parasites of Decapod Crustacea of Louisiana Coastal Waters. Occasional Papers of the Marine Laboratory, Louisiana State University. Number 5.*

# Fetch'm!



**C**RIPPLES AND LOST BIRDS are hard on a hunter's average. For some reason, man just doesn't have what it takes to locate and catch wounded birds. This very important task calls for a specialist in the field, and that specialist comes in one of several breeds of canines. But they are all called retrievers.

Most of these breeds will give re-

liable service if properly handled. We will skip the quail hunter because with him retrieving is secondary. Also, we believe the two dogs mentioned here are top all-around southern retrievers that would be tops for the pheasant hunter.

by HAL SWIGGETT  
San Antonio Express-News

The man who doesn't hunt ducks and is only interested in a dog for doves will have a hard time beating the Cocker Spaniel. He makes a good pet for the children, can be kept in the house, and if you can find a hunting strain, he will give an outstanding account of himself in the field. He weighs only about 20 pounds, and in case you have a preference, he

Freckles, an outstanding springer spaniel, her owner Jack Gibbons, and a pair of pintails.



Ed Reilly accepts a duck from his German short hair pointer, "Snootz," who retrieves doves equally well.



comes in four or five different colors. He is not big enough for work in the water.

Duck hunters prefer the Labrador, Chesapeake or Golden Retriever. All have been bred for water work and are big, powerful animals.

The Labrador is black with a short, very dense, smooth coat. The Chesapeake varies from dark brown to a faded tan and has the same thick coat but it is wavy on the shoulders. The Golden's name best describes his color. He has a longer coat than either of the others and, in my opinion, a better disposition. He makes a good family pet as well as a top retriever. The three are approximately two feet tall at their shoulders and weigh from 60 to 75 pounds.

Two other breeds rate high as ideal retrievers for southern hunting, the German Short Hair and the Springer Spaniel. In fact, if more hunters had a chance to watch them work they could take over the field. In the first place, we don't have the cold weather in Texas for which retrievers are bred to cope. A dog for this area doesn't need a heavy oily coat.

Secondly, we need a more all-around dog than just a water retriever. Doves are an important game bird in our section of the country. Since dove shooting and hot weather go together it is usually too much for the heavy-coated retriever used in the north.

The German Short Hair Pointer will retrieve equally well from land or water and can give an outstanding account of himself on anybody's quail hunt. Although about the same size as the retrievers, he has a lovable personality and is a good fellow to have around. He is liver colored, usually with white ticks, and averages about 70 pounds.

In my meager opinion, the all-around dog for the southern shooter (aside from quail) is the Springer Spaniel. He is a top worker in the field and his 45 pounds can get through brush and weeds the little Cocker can't handle. He loves the water and makes an excellent duck retriever in our warm climate. He has a wonderful disposition and is small enough to be kept in the house as a pet for the children. Though he is supposed to be a bird hunter, I

know one Springer who has as much fun treeing squirrels as any terrier you ever saw.

During the past duck season I had the pleasure of watching a Labrador, a Chesapeake, a German Short Hair and two Springers in action. One of the Springers was young, but the other wouldn't have to take a back seat to the bigger dogs any day of the week. My contention is

that the Springer is dog enough for southern duck hunting, just right for doves and a good pet for the kids.

I will bet money, marbles or chalk that if you ever hunt with a good retriever, even one time, you will never rest till you get your own. You will catch yourself shooting just to watch your dog work instead of for the sake of killing, the mark of a real

• Continued on Page 29



Snootz, German short hair, weighs about 90 pounds.

**SHEET-THIN ICE** spread across the new boat basin at Rockport like a wax coating. The banks were smeared with frosting and fairyland forms of frozen moisture decorated the sandy beaches. It was fascinating, like a child's dream.

Several cars were parked nearby and a few fishermen already stood along the water's edge in the 16-degree, daybreak hour, January 12. One of the daring individuals sailed a lure high and far over the water, only to have it bounce to a halt on the iced-over surface. He paused in amazement for a moment, then gave his line a short jerk. This action launched his lure on a record run for the shore with the line trailing in an arc behind.

Thousands of tiny, frozen minnows speckling the crust of ice gave it a new vinyl-tile look. Here and there larger fish rested lifeless on the bottom. Most of these were ribbon fish and small sand trout, croakers

and mullet. Undoubtedly, if there were any live fish in the basin, they were ice-cold. It was enough to cause one to shudder at the thought of the fish kill that could be taking place at that very moment.

Back at the old boat basin in the center of the popular little resort village, piers and boats were lined with fishermen tempting any fish that had moved into the deeper water to escape the cold, shallow bays.

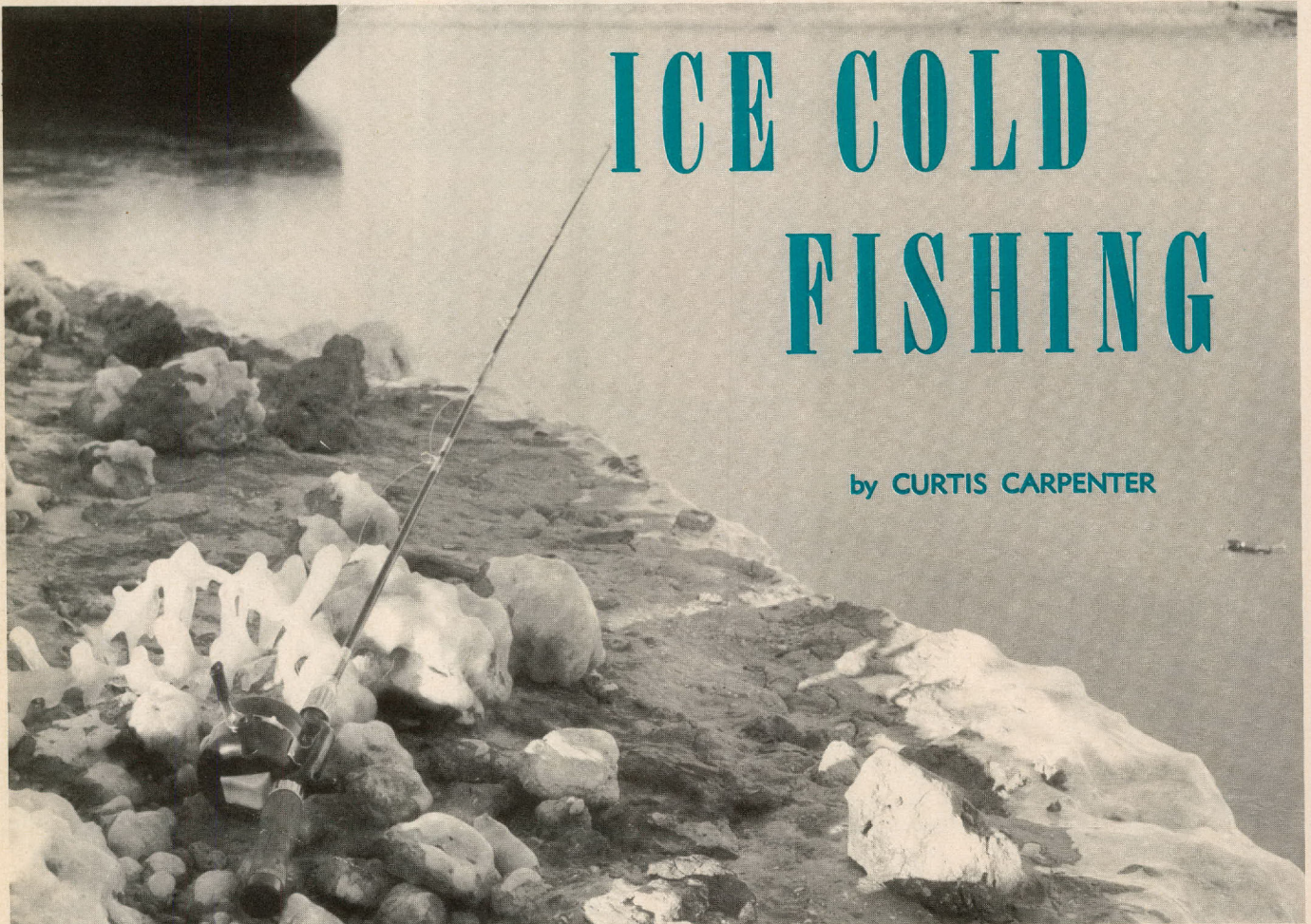
Several stringers dangled from piers with rat reds sluggishly fanning the water below with their tails. A sportsman hauled in a redfish which fought more like an old pair of waterlogged trousers.

The technique used to catch the little reds was more like that used in carp fishing than anything else. Instead of a doughball, a paralyzed live shrimp was threaded on the hook. A sinker at the end gave the line the weight needed for longer casts. The sinker was fastened about

18 inches up from the hook. After a cast, the bait was allowed to settle to the bottom. Then slack was taken up just enough so a slight arc was formed in the line from the rod tip to the water once the rod had been laid on the pier.

The fisherman stared at his line where it entered the water. Laying a rod down would have been dangerous under normal conditions, when reds savagely attack such baits.

Most fishermen were using two fishing rigs. On a boat nearby, one man reached down quickly and grabbed his rod, apparently for no reason. He jerked back on the rod and hauled in a stunned red. How he knew something was on the line wasn't evident at first. But after closer observation, the secret was spotted. He simply watched the line so intently that he was able to detect even the slightest twitch. When the arc in the line straightened, this signaled the fisherman that some-



Strange formations ornamented the shores and smears of ice crusted the banks. Barge in background is "frozen in" and artificial lure at lower right sits on the frozen-over surface.

thing was taking the bait.

One fisherman brought in a six-pounder with very little effort. This was the largest observed that frosty day. How he would have enjoyed it on a warm summer day! The fish didn't rip off line like a good red should.

A person couldn't help but feel sorry for the fish populations. Nevertheless, when arctic blasts herd them into basins and canals, this gives many people a chance to get some prime fish for their tables. Actually, iced fishing has become a tradition along the coast. It's not unusual during a very cold spell to see banks, boats, basins and barges loaded with fishermen. Ordinarily, the temperature doesn't drop quite as low as it did in early January. The fish get cold but not so cold that they refuse to take a bait.

It was a real task getting the fish to take a shrimp. For some reason, only redfish were being caught in the basin. And evidently they were just lying dormant on the bottom. A bait had to be dragged right across in front of the groggy fish's nose, before he would pick it up. Peeled shrimp seemed to impress the fish and increase the chances for catching them consistently.

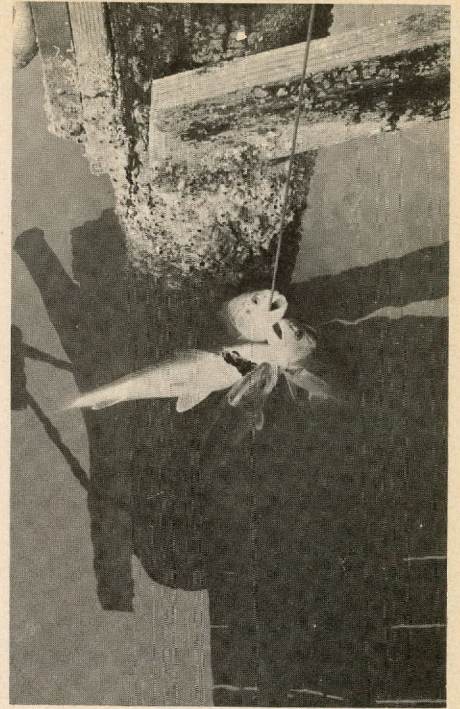
If a fish didn't take the bait in one spot, it was dragged to another, and another until the fisherman had it back or a fish sucked it down. Most fishermen were catching fish, but it appeared that the ones who had the

technique worked out, and concentrated determinedly on what they were doing, caught far more fish.

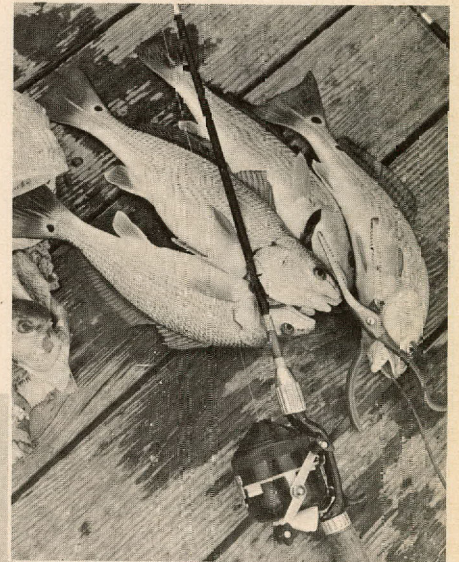
When the sun peeked out from behind the clouds and the chill was removed somewhat from the upper layer of water, smaller fish became active. Fishermen caught everything from pinperch to mullet. Some caught only the common cold.

At Port Aransas, the shrimp basin was lined with anxious fishermen. A few boats had anchored in the middle of the basin. Cars were stacked along the roads. In the distance, along the intracoastal canal beyond the bridge, and to the right of the highway just past the bridge where a long, deep hole had been dredged, people were braving the cold by casting for fish. It was slow fishing in most of these places on the morning when temperatures were at their lowest. Icicles hung from the piers, and layers of ice spread across shallow shoreline indentions. Boatmen were out early to repair any damage to their water systems, and to fire up the engines, but few fish were caught.

It was a rare sight, with hot steaming coffee being the drink of the day. A person who had visited the area in July, would have found it difficult to imagine that this was a place to come for sunshine and tropical breezes. Tourists who were spending the winter on the coast were ready to go back north where it was warm. They didn't especially care for this ice-cold fishing. \*\*



The rat redfish were so cold they hung motionless on the stringers. Below, closed face reel and grippers make ideal ice fishing tools and enable fisherman to keep his gloves on without getting them soaked.



Fishermen began to file out on the piers early to get a chance at the reds that had sought refuge in the deeper water.



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*"States can play  
a pivot role  
in making outdoor  
recreation  
opportunities available."*

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**W**ATER IS THE FOCAL POINT of outdoor recreation. This is the high spot in the massive report just issued by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. It is a part of the three-year study by the group headed by Laurence Rockefeller and other high officials.

Basically the report calls for:

1. Development of a long range program of land acquisition to create new national parks and recreational areas.
2. Creation of programs to stimulate and assist states in meeting demands for outdoor recreation.
3. Formulation of a system of user fees and other 'pay-as-you-go' measures to insure adequate financing.
4. Establishment of a new Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in the Department of Interior.

The report further recommends that states play a "pivotal role" in making outdoor recreation opportunities available. This can be done by "acquisition of land, development of sites and provision and maintenance of facilities of state or regional significance; assistance to local governments, and provision of leadership and planning."

The report itself contains perhaps the most intensive portfolio of information ever assembled to establish the principles of recreation.

Members of the committee studying the program for the last three years include U.S. Senators Clinton P. Anderson, Henry C. Dworshak, Henry M. Jackson, Jack Miller, Congressman John P. Saylor, Gracie Prost, Ralph J. Rivers, John H. Kyle, and Presidential Commissioners Samuel T. Dana, Mrs. Marian S. Dryfoos, Bernard L. Orell, Joseph W. Penfold, M. Frederick Smith and Chester S. Wilson.

Implementation of the recommendations now is being urged by Secretary of the Interior, Stewart L. Udall.

"Embodied in the ORRRC report is a searching look at America, and how we use our outdoor resources,"

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# *People Look to Water for Rest and Relaxation*

by L. A. WILKE

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Secretary Udall said. "The report, and the subsequent publication of many detailed studies that went into it, will be of inestimable value to our land and recreation planners at every level of government for years to come.

"This nation, from the community level to the states and the federal government, faces an urgent assignment in developing a long-range program of treating our outdoors recreation facilities as a resource. Population growth and population concentration, coupled with increased mobility and leisure, create unprecedented problems and unprecedented opportunities."

Findings of the committee discuss the necessity of "effective acres" in providing outdoor recreational facilities. It also calls attention to the necessity of development of facilities nearer to metropolitan population centers.

"Money is needed," the report says. "Most public agencies, particularly in the States, are faced with a lack of funds. Outdoor recreation opportunities can be created by acquiring new areas or by more intensive development of existing resources, but either course requires money. Federal, state and local governments are now spending about \$1 billion annually for outdoor recreation. More will be needed to meet the demand.

"Outdoor recreation is often compatible with other resource uses. Fortunately, recreation need not be the exclusive use of an area, particularly the larger ones. Recreation can be another use in a development primarily managed for a different purpose, and it therefore should be considered in many kinds of planning—urban renewal, highway construction, water resource development, forest and range management, to name only a few.

"Water is a focal point of outdoor recreation. Most people seeking outdoor recreation want water—to sit by, to swim and to fish in, to ski across, to dive under, and to run their boats over. Swimming is now one of the most popular outdoor activities and is likely to be the most popular of all by the turn of the century. Boating and fishing are among the top ten activities. Camping, picnicking, and hiking, also high on the list,

are more attractive near water sites.

"Outdoor recreation brings about economic benefits. Although the chief reason for providing outdoor recreation is the broad social and individual benefits it produces, it also brings about desirable economic effects. Its provision enhances community values by creating a better place to live and increasing land values. In some under-developed areas, it can be a mainstay of the local economy. And it is the basis for big business as the millions and millions of people seeking the outdoors generate an estimated \$20 billion a year market for goods and services.

"Outdoor recreation is a major leisure time activity, and it is growing in importance. About 90 percent of all Americans 18 and over participated in some form of outdoor recreation in the summer of 1960. In total, they participated in one activity or another on 4.4 billion separate occasions. It is anticipated that by 1976 the total will be 6.9 billion, and by the year 2000 it will be 12.4 billion—a threefold increase by the turn of the century.

"More needs to be known about the values of outdoor recreation. As outdoor recreation increases in importance, it will need more land, but much of this land can be used, and will be demanded, for other purposes. Yet there is little research to provide basic information on its relative importance. More needs to be established factually about the values of outdoor recreation to our society, so that sounder decisions on allocation of resources for it can be made. More must be known also about management techniques, so that the maximum social and economic benefits can be realized from these resources."

To carry out the recommendations, the report recommends the establishment of a Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, within the Department of Interior, and grants-in-aid program. To meet the costs the report recommends the use of general obligation and revenue bonds, user fees, dedicated funds and general taxes, in addition to the stimulation of gifts from private individuals and groups. \*\*



**A**T LONG LAST THE DAY before opening of deer season arrived! The excitement of going into the great outdoors can make people forget the everyday routine of City life. Somehow, we managed to control ourselves. We had talked of nothing but hunting ever since the names of my wife, my eighteen-year-old son and myself, were drawn for the controlled hunt on one of our State Wildlife Management Areas. We had applied for the Kerr Area because it was near and a good hunting area. The three of us were ready with our rifles oiled and long-handles packed.

Our names were drawn for the first two days of the hunt, Nov. 16 and 17. We made reservations for our lodging at the Mc-Ranch, "Presbyterian Assembly," a few miles from the headquarters of the Kerr Wildlife Management Area.

November 15 we left Austin for the hill country a little before 6 p.m., and by 8 o'clock we were eating dinner in Kerrville. The next stop was Hunt. A short drive along Guadalupe River, carried our party to the Mo-Ranch. We had not realized how beautiful the hill country can be until we arrived at the ranch.

We went directly to the office of the manager, who turned out to be a very helpful gentleman. He gave us all the information about reporting to the management area the next

morning, then assigned us to the guest house, which actually was a beautiful rustic lodge.

As we pulled up in the parking area, our headlights picked up 10

# WE HUNTED THE KERR AREA

by E. K. HEADRICK\*

or 12 deer feeding along the river bank. "Two big bucks!" Our eyes were really getting a treat.

While unpacking the car, we didn't know another big surprise or two

*\*Mr. Headrick, one of our readers, sent in this story for our consideration. It describes so well an average hunter's experience on a typical public hunt that we decided it was a must for the magazine.*

were yet to come. We stumbled up the path with our arms full of hunting equipment which we almost dropped when we entered the door. There in the lobby was the largest real wood-burning fireplace that we had ever seen. The temperature outside definitely was cold enough for a fire. After toasting ourselves in front of the fireplace for awhile, we climbed the stairs and hit the sack.

Five a.m. November 16 found us up and ready for breakfast. After two helpings of hot cakes, ham and coffee, we started for the Deer Check Station carrying the box lunches the cafeteria had prepared for us.

We arrived at the check station with several other cars of hunters. Frost was on everything. At the check station, we met the three biologists who were to be our supervisors for the next two days, and about 30 other hunters. My wife was happy to see three other female hunters. The hunters were from all parts of Texas. We were the only hunters from Austin. They were all fine people and easy to make friends.

We had to register and show the letters we had received qualifying us to hunt. Then we were divided into three groups of 11 to 12 hunters to a party.

When everyone was ready, and the biologists had briefed us on the rules and regulations, we drove to the pastures with our assigned guide.



The pastures were named Owl, Rock, Fawn and other similar names.

We hunted in Fawn pasture. It had some chained sections, fields and thick cedar. Leaving the station, we lined up behind the guide's pickup in our cars and followed him. We were the last ones. The biologist led us deep into the hunting area, then asked us to leave our car and get into his pickup. Shortly he stopped and suggested that I get off and climb on top of a nearby brush pile and sit there. I heard the pickup stop a little beyond my stand and let my wife or son off on their stand down the hill.

After awhile it began to get light enough to see by. I was so cold I found it hard to sit still. I began to look for deer in earnest. "What a wonderful job the biologists were doing with the grass and trees," I thought as I searched about. It was



Oma Headrick, and her doe and a few of the deer taken the first day on Kerr Area.

a paradise for livestock and wildlife.

About seven a.m. I heard a shot below the hill. Knowing we could shoot a buck or a doe, I figured our chances of getting a deer were very good.

I stayed with my brush pile until 8 a.m. The biologist came back just as I was getting down, so we went together to where my son was hunting. He had a nice eight-point buck already dressed. I was proud of him since it was the first deer he had ever field dressed. We put the boy and his deer in back of the pickup and drove to my wife's stand.

She hadn't seen one deer and was ready for some hot coffee. Since my son had killed his deer, he had to return to the checking station. After some coffee we took our box lunches and thermos and walked back to our stands.

On the way we frightened some deer and could hear them running

in the brush. My wife took the stand our son had and I went to her stand as it was near a good deer crossing. At mid afternoon my wife shot a doe. The biologists had asked us to notify them if we killed a doe.

They wanted to examine the reproductive organs and its stomach contents for their records, so my wife walked back to the main road and flagged down some hunters returning to the checking station. The hunters told the biologist, and he came and picked up the doe.

I didn't see a deer for the rest of the day. It wasn't easy going in empty handed knowing the rest of the family had gotten their deer before the "old man."

That night at the cafeteria I was ribbed pretty bad, because nearly all the others had a deer hanging up, but me!

The worst came the next morning at 5 a.m. I was the only one hitting the floor who had to get a deer. It was the last day of our hunt.

My wife and son went to the hunting headquarters with me, just to listen to the hunters and biologists talk.

They also found it interesting to watch Jack Thomas, state biologist, and T. A. Booker, Kerr Wildlife Management Area supervisor, dress the deer. In fact they classified them as the two most educated butchers in the state of Texas since they measured the deer for horn spread, leg length, chest width, body length, etc. Each deer was weighed and checked for its age. The contents of the stomachs were examined and all information was recorded to be studied so Texans can have better



Jack Thomas and T. A. Booker, Kerr Area biologists.

wildlife and better grazing land.

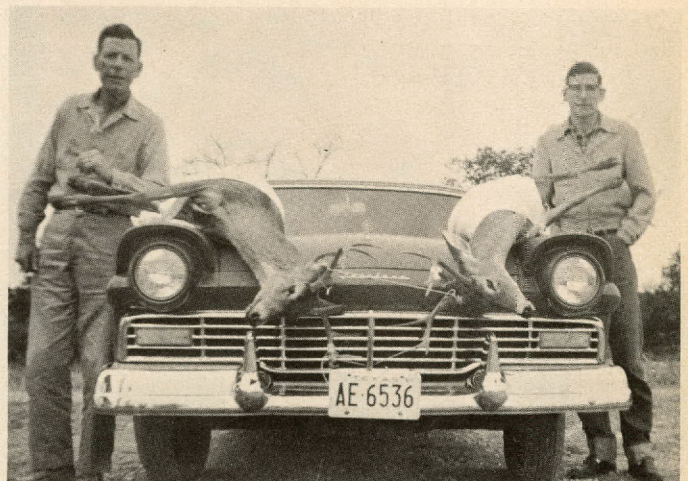
Going to the area headquarters and getting ready to hunt was easy the last day. There were only three or four of us there. My guide the day before decided to let me go with one of the other fellows who would take me to a different part of the six thousand acre area. He said he would drop me in a place where he was certain I would get a shot.

Sure enough by 7:30 a.m. my buck was in his pickup going back to the checking station. It was an eight-pointer, too.

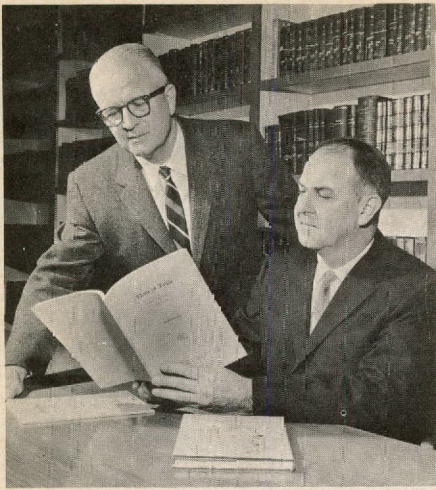
All in all it was quite an experience. We learned that the area was well managed by men who know their business. Even while carrying out their chores, they still managed to make a person feel welcome even if he was just one of the many men and women who participated in the deer and turkey hunting on the wildlife management area. It was free, too!

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E. K. Headrick left, and son Kenneth with their two 8-point bucks leaving Kerr Area.



# *Pteridophyta & Orchidaceae*



Dr. Lundell, left, and Dr. Correll.

**THE FLORA OF TEXAS**, Edited by Dr. Cyrus Longworth Lundell and collaborators, well illustrated with detailed black and white line drawings, published by the University Press in Dallas, Southern Methodist University, and the Texas Research Foundation of Renner. Volume 1, Part III, *Orchidaceae*, may be obtained from the Texas Research Foundation, Renner, Texas, at \$3. Vol. 1, covering *Pteridophyta* by Dr. Donovan S. Correll, is priced at \$5.

Sponsorship of these studies is carried on under the direction of the Southern Methodist University and the Texas Research Foundation to provide a series of monographic papers covering the ferns, fern allies and flowering plants of Texas.

They are intended for the serious students of the Flora of Texas and provide accurate background information on research done by outstanding botanists of the state.

Correspondence concerning the purchase of these works should be directed to the attention of Dr. C. L. Lundell, Renner Research Foundation, Renner, Texas.



**T**HE FERN FLORA of Texas is a bountiful one. With 107 separate species, only Florida with 127 exceeds it.

In this work by Dr. Donovan Stewart Correll, assisted by his wife Dr. Helen Butts Correll, serious students of Texas botany will find ample source material for their study of *Pteridophyta*. It is the result of extensive research throughout the state.

Most interest in ferns, according to Dr. Correll, has been in delicate house plants or those produced in greenhouses. Far more interesting, however, is the study of the plants as they exist in the woods, where the plants mostly multiply from spores, which spread them to provide background beauty for bouquets of wild flowers.

"Aside from their ornamental value, ferns are usually considered to be of little economic importance," he writes. "Although this is largely

true of ferns today, it certainly is not true of the ferns of the early geologic eras. Ferns have proved to be some of the most important plants ever to populate the earth. Their contribution toward forming the large coal measures during the Carboniferous has been of inestimable value to mankind.

"Ferns are used for food and drink in many parts of the world. In this country the young shoots or "croziers" of several ferns, particularly the bracken and cinnamon fern are used in fresh and cooked salads. The young shoots of the ostrich fern, *Matteuccia struthiopteris* (L) Todaro, are not only used in fresh and cooked salad in New England and Canada, but are even canned for future use.

"In some parts of eastern United States two species of *Osmunda* that are found in Texas are of economic importance. The stout, fibrous root masses of the cinnamon and royal ferns are cut up and sold under the names of Osmundine, or Orchard

Peet, to be used as a substratum upon which to grow commercial orchids. This porous material makes an ideal potting mixture because it is almost indestructible, it does not readily deteriorate or become soft and compact."

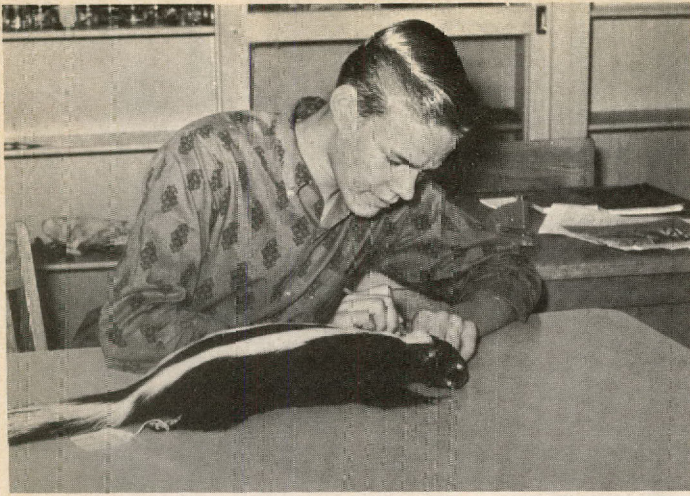
In his fern research Dr. Correll also applied some of his time to *Orchidaceae*, or orchids.

"Orchids are perennials and are either terrestrial, semi-aquatic, epiphytic, lithophytic or very early subterranean. Most of the species found in the temperate zone are terrestrial, while the greater portion of tropical and subtropical orchids are spiphytic or lithophytic," he points out.

This part of his book covers orchids found in the timber belts of Texas in the early spring. Generally they are known by vernacular names, such as "yellow ladies slipper," "American valerian," "Downy ladies slipper," "Noah's Ark," "Water stealer," "whippoorwill shoe," and "yellow moccasin flower."

The works of Dr. Correll are highly technical and are intended only for advanced students or as references for experienced botanists. They do represent, however, outstanding authorities and references for their purpose. Rather than being recommended reading, they are recommended references of highest quality.—L. A. Wilke \*\*





Wayne McDaniel takes an ear measurement on the striped skunk he prepared for advanced biology class.

**P**ORCUPINES IN ANDREWS County? "Don't be ridiculous!" A typical reply from the average citizen of this dry, sandy south plains county. Yet porcupines do occasionally occur here as testified by a sad dog with the minutely barbed quills in its muzzle. Five years ago a porcupine was discovered in the school's shop building, apparently thinking he had found a porky paradise among the varicus kinds of wood found therein. On the average at least one porcupine a year is re-

ported to various city agencies as an oddity.

The question "what is it?" is a common one asked by citizens anywhere when they encounter some unfamiliar living thing. The high school of any community could be the place to supply the answer. The biology department should be specifically charged with this job. It can be fun as well as educational.

With this idea in mind the advanced biology class of Andrews High School in 1960-1961 selected as

their pet project the collection, classification and preservation of specimens of plants and animals of the county.

The class wanted to involve the entire community in the project so it was declared that the school year 1960-1961 would be known as A.C.B.Y., the initials standing for Andrews County Biological Year, patterned after I.G.Y. or International Geophysical Year.

The program was officially launched by the instructor making a talk to the Evening Lions Club explaining the project. The enthusiasm shown by the Lions was tremendous, with practically every member recalling seeing some unusual mammal or bird or reptile around. Many of these men are pumpers or gaugers in the oil field and spend all their working time in the country.

The need of conservation was stressed to the class and citizens alike. They were cautioned not to violate any game or civil laws by trespassing or killing protected animals. Sight records were accepted on birds and any other protected species. We did get some birds specimens from road kills and from younger boys with B.B. guns. Anytime a student received a specimen from a B.B. plinker, he was to deliver a lecture on indiscriminate shooting of birds. One girl almost brought her little brother to tears by her

# Andrews High and A.C.B.Y.

by JAMES F. SCUDDAY  
Biology Instructor  
Andrews High School



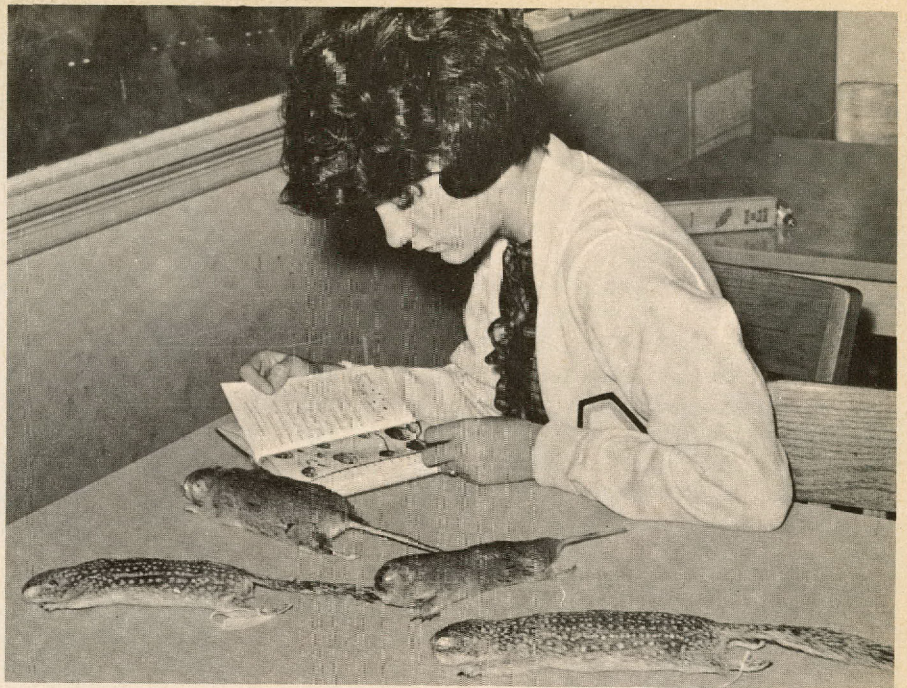
Billy Fleming grooms the fur of a hoary bat, one of three species collected in the county.

stern reprimand, but graciously accepted the specimen. I cannot say whether this is good or bad, but I do know there are going to be many song birds killed in every community in various ways, and if we can use some of them for education, then it cannot be all wasted. I certainly do not think we encouraged the B.B. gunners by the technique we used.

A school museum has been established to maintain and display all specimens on hand. Our new high school building has a specially designed area for display of this material. We have a school herbarium with over three hundred mounted and labeled specimens of the plants of Andrews County.

The herpetological collection of snakes, lizards, turtles, toads and frogs is a large one. The Texas Game and Fish bulletin, *Poisonous Snakes of Texas*, doesn't indicate an officially recorded occurrence of rattlesnakes in Andrews County. Three species have been collected, with two of them, the diamond back and the prairie rattler, being as abundant as in any county in Texas, if not more so. Until just a few years ago there used to be a sign on the Eunice highway which read: "DANGER: Do Not Leave Your Car. SNAKE-INFESTED AREA." The other species, the pygmy rattler is apparently rare in the county. At least we have obtained only 3 specimens.

The armadillo is supposed to occur



Susan Flowers works with a part of the rodent collection from Andrews County.

occasionally in the area, but so far not a single specimen has turned up. If it is present in the county, the armadillo and the porcupine are probably our two rarest species of mammals.

This year's advanced biology class is carrying on in the tradition of last year's class, and the school museum is still growing and gaining specimens. A striped skunk is one of this year's fine additions. It was caught within the city limits by the city dog-catcher, who handled it with care

in order not to ruin its pelt. The dog-catcher, with the aid of some students, then dispatched the skunk with chloroform. Needless to say they did not get off unscathed. One boy, Wayne McDaniels, volunteered for the skinning and mounting job, and turned out an excellent specimen, as can be testified by the photograph. The work of the dog-catcher is an example of the wonderful cooperation we are getting from interested citizens.

This year the class consists of seven students. They must have made a B average or better in their regular biology course to be eligible to register for the advanced biology course. No text book is used. Emphasis is upon individual student work, field and laboratory work, and group projects in preparation of exhibits and museum material.

The class is broken up into groups at the beginning of school with a group leader selected on the basis of individual preference for some particular group of organisms or activity. For instance the leader of the herpetology group will be a student that shows more interest in the study of herps than any other. All members of the class are automatically members of his group. Thus every student is a group leader and



Wanda Bartz finishes a hawk for display.

• Continued on Page 29

# Pride of the South Laguna

by R. L. (SMOKEY) BOYLE

**T**HE BIG SCHOOL of reds moved steadily eastward. The two fishermen watched them go with a feeling of helplessness, knowing that in the shallow waters of the Laguna Madre, it was impossible to follow by boat. And a five mile walk is a long, long way in the bay. Necessity has always been the mother of invention, and in this case another solution was born.

It was called a scooter and that is just what it is. Light and smooth bottomed, this shingle scoots on top of the water, and a ten horse motor will move it at amazing speeds. The best part about it, of course, is that it will travel in nine inches of water. The trout, red, flounder and many other species of game fish that feed in the "flats," can no longer thumb their nose and laugh, because this child of necessity goes where they go.

Many lengths, widths and thicknesses have been built since this little jewel first appeared on the scene some five years ago. Some are as short as eight feet, and others look as if somebody forgot to take his motor off the pier and was using it for transportation.

The small ones get the job done in the "flats," but they do not have the capacity to carry some of the things that make the trip a lot easier. The monstrosities are too heavy and cumbersome to get back on top of the water after they have been let down in the shallows and consequently are not able to do real scooter work. Out of many experiments has come one model that seems to answer the need and is more or less standard as far as this type of craft is concerned.

It has an over all length of 11 feet, and a width of five. It is eight inches

thick. The turned up nose is standard equipment on all sizes. The two musts of a scooter are sturdiness and little weight. The strength is achieved by cross framing every 16 inches. The first one of these, however, is placed 19½ inches from the rear on the top side and 21½ inches from the rear on the bottom. This gives the depth of the notch cut out for the motor to run in, and also gives the correct angle for the transom. The next braces are set 32 inches from the rear end and the rest are spaced 16 inches all the way to the front.

The six stringers that run the full length are cut out of ¼ inch marine plywood, and the four inside ones are notched out 1½ inches wide and ¾ inch deep for the cross braces, thus leaving an unbroken surface on the outside. The two center stringers are spaced 16 inches apart and the others are placed 11 inches apart.

A 2 by 4, of oak or a similar wood, planed to conform to the lines of the craft, fit in a cradle cut out of the stringers and this forms the nose.

The framing can be of cedar, fir, or any good light wood, but the nose takes 90 percent of the contact made with piers, etc., and should be of a harder material. Two sheets of ¼ inch marine plywood, 5 by 12 feet, are used to cover the frame. A notch then is sawed out in the rear, between the two center stringers, 16 inches wide and all the way up to the cross braces. The hole should be plugged with a 1 inch board nailed flush with the outside edge of the cross braces. This will reinforce and give an anchor to which the transom can be nailed. The transom is made of 1½ inch plywood, 16 inches wide and 18 inches long. When fitted in the slot and flush with the bottom of the boat, it should let the motor extend 10 inches in the water. This holds for most standard motors. It would be well to check yours to be



The box on standard model is used for food and ice storage as well as a seat and an observation platform. Boat can be steered by leaning from side to side.

sure the water intake is submerged when the boat is sitting flat. Some have made the transom 20 inches long, figuring their weight to push the motor down enough to take on water in the cooling system. Of course every inch saved here means shallower navigation. It is well to remember that motors will not run long without the pump working.

All joints in the framing and cover sheets should be put together with a good waterproof glue, and then nailed with either monel, copper or galvanized nails. The galvanized nails will rust after a while and do not do as good a job as the others.

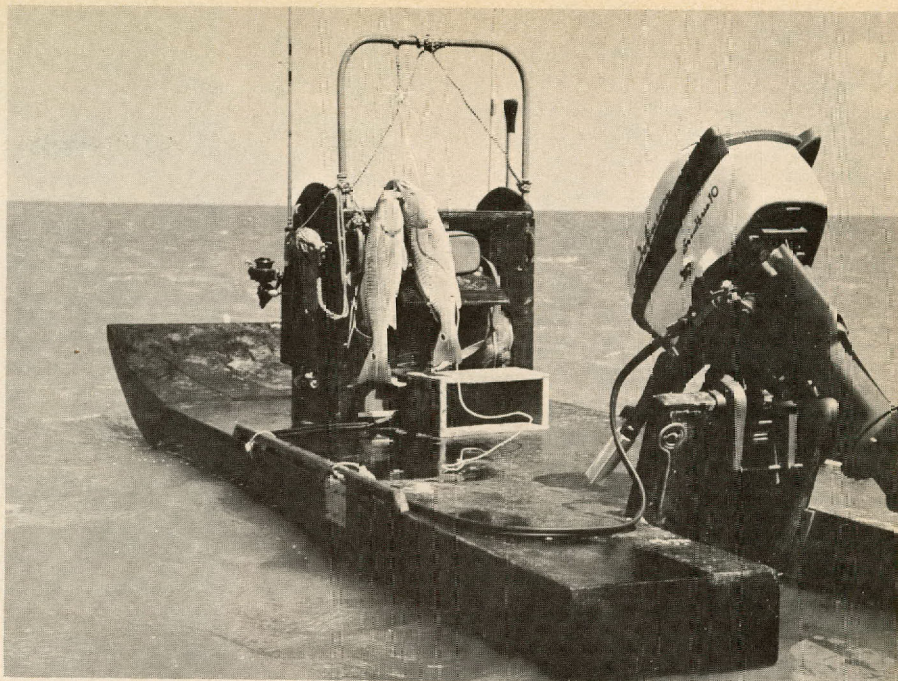
The entire surface can then be covered with a good marine paint, but the majority of these little speedsters are jacketed with fiberglass cloth put on with liquid glass resin. Two coats are usually put on the deck, the second being sprinkled, while still wet, with sand or saw dust, to give a nonskid surface.

Three coats on the bottom and sides leave them mirror smooth which is conducive to higher speeds.

The box as shown in figure 2 is fitted on last, along with the handle bars. This can have a lid like a shoe box, but should be strong enough to support a man so he can stand on top of it and look for feeding fish. This is also a good place for an extra passenger to ride. The side rails are optional, but two good heavy screw eyes spaced four feet apart in the nose are handy for tie and tow ropes.

The finished product will weigh close to 160 to 170 pounds, depending on the skill of the builder. A 10-horse motor will plane it, an 18 does an excellent job, giving more speed. There are many being shot over the waters with power up to 40 horses. If it is planned to use a motor larger than a 10, it is advisable to reinforce the transom with additional outside braces running from the top down to the deck behind it.

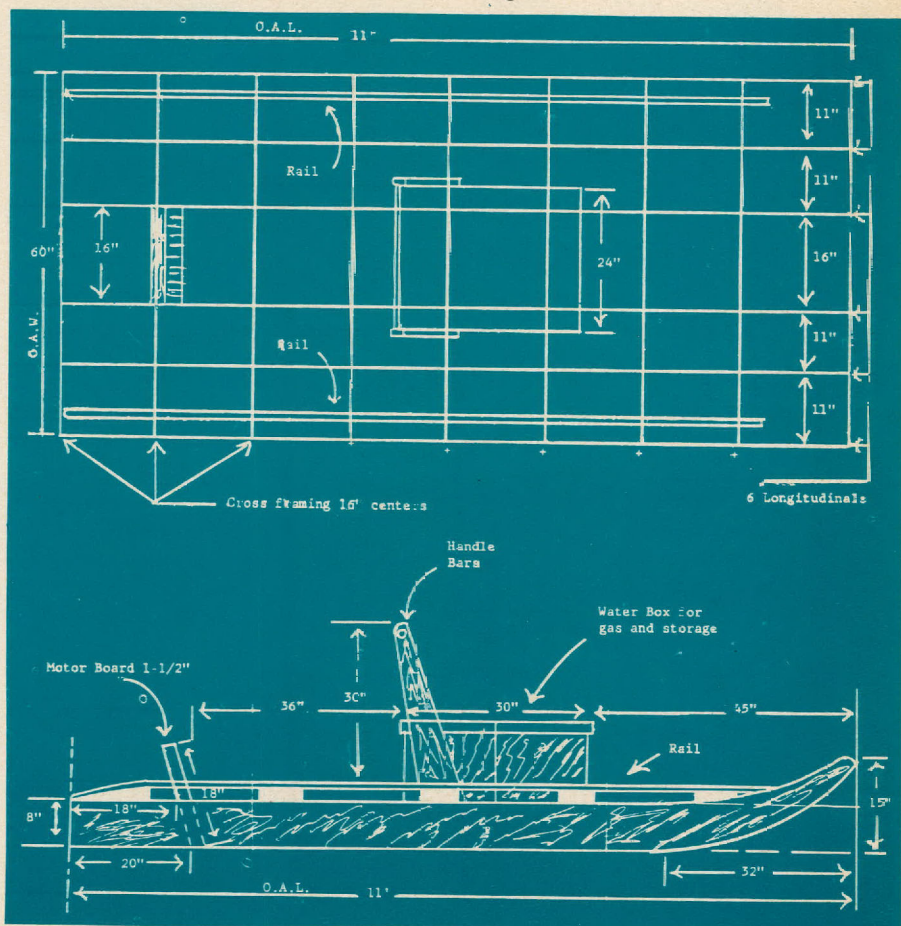
The handle bars should be well secured as the craft is guided by the operator leaning from side to side, and these same bars are the only thing that keep him aboard. Although this model will carry double great care should be taken that both passengers are not on the same side at the same time. Although virtually unsinkable, it can be turned over.



A motor of this size sends the scooter flying over the water at terrific speeds. Shallow water presents no problems since it rides high.

A very short time is needed to become an expert at handling it. Although designed for a specific purpose, it has proved as versatile as

it is speedy, and there is a bonus of pleasure in building and using the "Fishing Scooter," pride of the South Laguna. \*\*



**T**HE SOFT GLARE of the lights shining on the darkened waters danced and shimmered with the moving tide. Suddenly the water exploded into a hundred jewel-like droplets as a speckled trout came to the surface and danced across the illuminated area with a silver spoon dangling from its gaping jaws. "Hey Joe," whooped an excited fisherman as he expertly scooped the bucking fish into the net that had been at his feet a moment before, "What do you think of night fishing now?"

Just for the record let me add that friend Joe never quite got around to answering. A two pound trout took a liking to the red and white

# From Dusk to Dawn

by GUS GETNER

surface plug he was using, and before anything else had been said, fish and fisherman were at it hammer and tongs. But then, anyone who has experienced the thrill of night fishing knows what the answer would have been . . . TERRIFIC!

Although many fishermen prefer to catch trout during the daylight hours when they can be sought from the comforts of an outboard, there are still a large number of Texans along the Gulf Coast who know the thrill that comes from fishing for the spotted twist-master from lighted piers. The lights shining on the water attract bait fish, insects, and shrimp . . . which in turn brings in the fish.

And what fish! It has long been argued by night fishing buffs that trout are at their best when prowling around lights, and from what we've seen, they just might be right. For

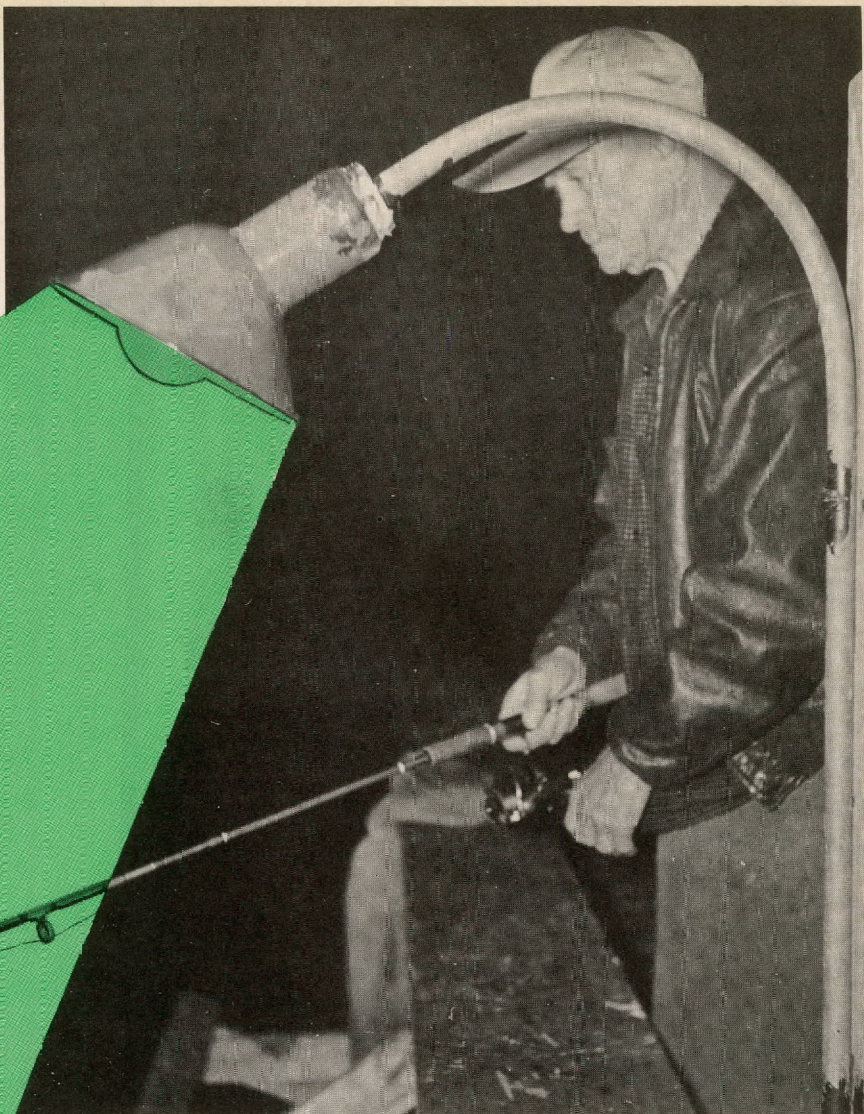
one thing, the trout isn't quite as gullible under lights as it is during the day. Under the glare of pier lights trout can often be seen as they warily circle a kicking shrimp looking for anything phony. If the hook is too big and shiny, or if the line reflects too much light, odds are that the bait will be ignored. The same will happen when a plug isn't worked as it should be.

If the fish eventually finds everything to its liking and it decides to hit, it becomes as furious a fighter as ever sported fins. It often rushes to the surface in a shower of spray, shaking its head and tail-walking faster than the eye can follow. It's at this stage of the game that most fish are lost unless the drag has been set a bit on the light side. Because trout have weak and tender mouths, any horsing on the part of the angler

while the trout is fighting tears out the hook.

Like other members of the angling fraternity, night fishing advocates have a variety of honored theories on how to get best results when pursuing their favorite sport. Some swear that trout, particularly the big ones, seldom come directly under the lights; they maintain the fish hang around the fringe areas of the lights waiting for a mouthful to come their way. Others prefer to cast their bait into the dark regions beyond the reach of the lights, allowing the tide to move the tidbit under the sealbeams much like it would a natural bait. Finally there are those who argue that the bait should stay in the center of the lighted area where it can be seen by a fish approaching from any direction.

Actually, as top-notch fishermen





will tell you, there is something to be said for all these methods since all have proven effective at one time or another. Many of these top fishermen admit they often give all of these methods a workout during the course of the night, trout being the finicky feeders they are.

This brings up a question often asked by the beginning night angler. . . . when is the best time of the night to fish under lights? Here again fishermen come up with one theory after another. They claim for instance, that if the area to be fished bears traffic during the daylight hours the action won't pick up till late in the evening when the water has calmed down, usually sometime after midnight. In cases where the tide movements are noticeable, they add, fishing is best right before, and immediately after, high tide when bait is being moved about.

By far the best answer given to the above question was advanced by a commercial fisherman with something like 20 years of night fishing experience behind him. "Get there at dusk and stay till dawn," he fired back when questioned. "They should

hit sometime in-between." He then went on to explain that, "Any dang fool that thinks fish feed on a set time schedule oughta' have his head examined."

Of course there is no iron-clad rule that says staying up all night will put fish on the stringer, far from it. About the only time you can be half-sure of getting action is right prior to a severe weather change such as northers, storms, or a hard rain. At other times you're at the whims of the fish.

But, supposing you're prepared to stay up all night in an effort to catch fish, what do you need to make the trip go as smoothly as possible? Most important other than having a matched rod and reel is to be comfortably dressed. Most first-timers are surprised to find it gets pretty chilly around a pier after midnight, even during the summer. Wear warm shirts and trousers, keeping a sweater and raincoat in reserve nearby. Also make sure the feet are kept dry, especially on damp nights. This might mean having to change shoes and socks during the night but in the long run it's for the best. A hat or



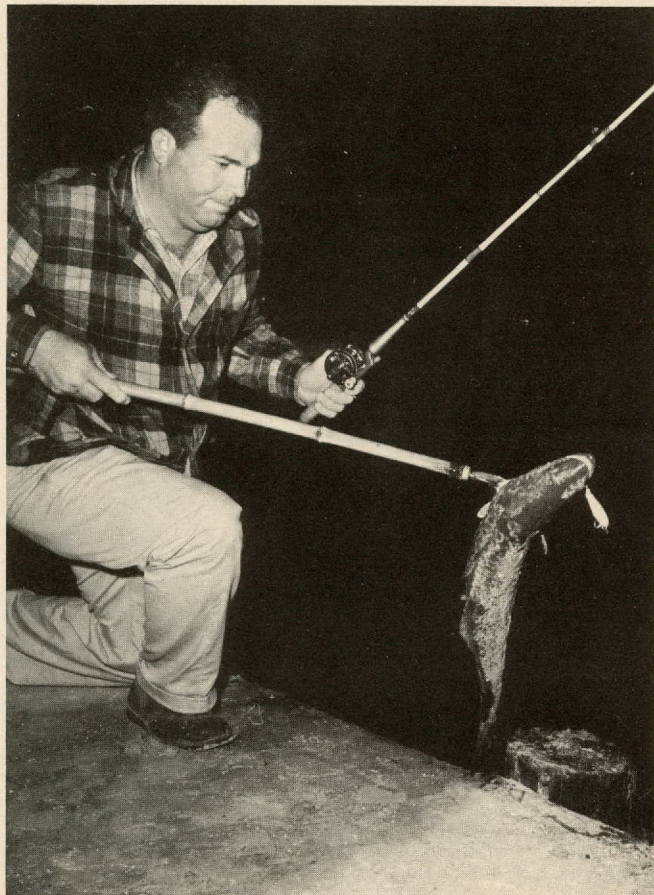
It's not unusual to catch flounder under the lights.

cap helps to keep the head and ears warm so wear one even if it isn't part of your usual dress. And don't forget that coffee jug—it helps shorten the night.

The tackle box should be stocked with spare hooks, an extra reel, a flashlight, leader material, plastic floats, a spare stringer, and most important, long-nosed pliers. A couple of minutes of trying to remove a hook from a trout's toothy jaws in semi-darkness will tell you why pliers are important.

Finally, we get down to selecting a bait. The best thing to do here is to be prepared with both, live bait and plugs. If they don't hit one they will hit the other. Shrimp is the best bait when fished alive, although a live needlegar is also a fine bait. Spoons, surface plugs and medium-running lures are the best all-around artificials to carry in the box.

Oh yes, one more thing. Be awfully careful, the night fishing habit is hard to shake. \*\*



Some very nice trout are caught by lights at night.

Night fishing produces an assortment of fish at times.



# SCOT Holds Annual Meet

**D**ELEGATES FROM SPORTSMEN'S groups attending the annual SCOT meeting in Austin, January 20, heard a grim reminder about the wasting and wanton destruction of renewable resources, all over the world. Keynote speaker, Thomas L. Kimball, executive director the National Wildlife Federation, held no punches as he used example after example to describe the world situation, as far as the conservation of natural resources is concerned.

Kimball said, "In continuing to ignore his conscience, man is consistently wasting and wantonly destroying the renewable resources upon which he and the welfare of society are entirely dependent.

"In ancient history, civilization after civilization has passed into oblivion or complete subjugation and dependence on other, stronger people because of their failure to conserve and wisely use renewable resources, the basic wealth of any nation."

He reached back into history to find examples of resource misuse and the results. "The Book of Books describes the Holy Land as a 'land of milk and honey.' Today, some 2,000 years later, the same land practices a 'goat economy.' The rich soil and productiveness of the land are gone because of centuries of misuse. In its place are found hunger, floods, pestilence, poverty and human degradation."

Concerning our wildlife resource he said, "Wildlife is a product of the land. Man's manipulation of environment has spelled the doom of certain game species, while at the same time, he has created a favorable habitat for others.

"With an ever increasing army of sportsmen the problem has enlarged beyond providing suitable game and fish populations to finding sufficient space to accommodate the radius of action of a hunter or fisherman.

"It seems to me to be both possible and probable, that in the not too dis-

tant future most conservation practices will be accomplished in the back yards of urban or suburban homes; and the quality experiences of hunting, fishing or outdoor recreation will become increasingly difficult to obtain or produce for the average citizen."

He pointed out that the solution to this "shortage of space" lies in the success of a stepped-up and intensified improvement of sportsmen and landowner relations. "Whether or not public hunting and fishing is continued in the United States, most of us know, will largely depend on the private landowner and whether or not he will be convinced it is in both his interest\* and that of the general public that wildlife production and harvest on his land is worthwhile."

He emphasized the importance of closer work relationship between conservation agencies, both state and federal, and private organizations such as SCOT. "Anyone continuing to belong and work enthusiastically in any organization must experience a sense of accomplishment and play a part in some commendable achievement.

"We must all hang together, or those who would exploit and plunder our renewable resources and rob us of our great outdoors heritage will see to it that we hang separately," he concluded.

Other guest speakers at the meeting were Eugene A. Walker, director of program planning for the Game and Fish Commission, and J. R. Singleton, director of Region IV, also with the Commission.

Walker pointed out that "there are many problems dealing with white-tailed deer management in the state which remain unsolved. As in industry, research in wildlife management is considerably ahead of public knowledge."

He agreed with Kimball that "the problem of hunter access to the deer supply gives cause for real concern.

Ways and means must be found to permit the taking of 25 to 30 percent of the total deer population in normal years to insure a healthy herd and minimum losses from malnutrition."

Singleton discussed migratory waterfowl studies in Texas. After describing methods used to determine the available winter range for ducks and geese along our coast, he gave some figures on the winter waterfowl populations. "In general the October population was approximately 300,000 birds. This increased to a peak occurring in November and December, varying from around 1,500,000 to a record of just over 3,000,000."

His report on data collected through a postcard survey indicated a definite decrease in the number of ducks killed from 1957 through 1961.

In 1957-58, 1,068,469 ducks were harvested; 1958-59, 968,386 ducks; 1959-60, 485,588 ducks; and 1960-61, 306,139 ducks were killed.

In contrast, there was a slight increase in the number of geese taken by hunters. In 1957-58, 108,253 geese were killed; 1958-59, 89,838; 1959-60, 110,286; 1960-61, 161,126 geese were killed. Over 4500 question-

• Continued on Next Page



Thomas L. Kimball

naires were mailed out each year to a randomly selected list of waterfowl hunters to obtain this information.

Singleton covered a number of projects now under way. Those mentioned are: a study to determine annual reproduction of geese; a study of the ecology of the principal waterfowl food plants in the lower Laguna Madre; and an effort to collect waterfowl data on a statewide basis.

Biggest project on list of SCOT's meeting activities was the election of new officers. Henry LeBlanc was re-elected to serve another term as president of the organization. Also re-elected was Ed R. L. Wroe, Jr., treasurer. Baylor Bell of Corpus Christi succeeded Kenneth Foree as secretary. Delegates voted to amend their constitution to increase their vice presidents from four to ten. The new vice-presidents are: W. T. Hunt, Baytown; P. M. Johnston, Waco; Beverly King, Graham; H. W. (Herb) Klein, Dallas; Wm. J. (Bill) Murray, Austin; E. W. (Jack) Newman, Houston; Charles Schreiner, Kerrville; W. T. (Terry) Scarborough, Kenedy; Arthur Temple Jr., Diboll; and Bruce Wiggins, of Beaumont.

Some 150 delegates, representing 105 clubs and 100,000 members, were present for the annual session. Charles Herring, Lieutenant Governor pro tem, introduced the main speaker.—Curtis Carpenter \*\*

## Wildlife Week March 18 - 24

HERBERT FRENSELY, OF HOUSTON, HAS been named state-wide chairman to direct the 1962 National Wildlife Week program March 18-24 in Texas. The appointment was announced by SCOT, which joins with the National Wildlife Federation in sponsorship of this educational campaign each year.

This year's observance, according to Frensley, is intended to highlight problems in preserving continental flights of migratory waterfowl. Theme for the observance is, "Waterfowl for the Future, by Conserva-

# New Conservation Stamps Feature Work by Top Artists

SHEETS OF 1962 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Stamps, produced by the National Wildlife Federation, have been distributed all over the continent to persons interested in nature.

The beautiful 1962 stamps, lithographed in six colors, depict 36 species of birds, mammals, fish, insects, and plants. The colorful stamps feature scenes with real-life settings and are suitable for use on correspondence, mounted decorations, in album collections, and in many other ways.

Artwork for the stamps was prepared under the supervision of Roger Tory Peterson, author of the famous "Field Guide to the Birds" and recognized as one of the world's foremost wildlife artists and ornithologists. Peterson, in fact, contributed several of his own paintings to the 1962 series. Maynard Reece, Don Eckelberry, Charles Ripper, Su Zan N. Swain and Bob Hines were other artists who painted scenes depicted on the stamps.

Natural color paintings of the following subjects are included in the 1962 stamp release:

Birds — Coppery-tailed Trogon, Mountain Quail, Double-crested Cormorant, Summer Tanager, Red-shafted Flicker, Gray Gyrfalcon, Mountain Plover, Brewer's Blackbird, Wilson's Petrel, Blue-winged Warbler, Red Phalarope, Bufflehead, Green Jay.

Mammals — Mule Deer, Grizzly Bear, River Otter, Gray Fox, Saddleback Seal, Lynx, Franklin Ground Squirrel, Virginia Opossum.

Fishes — White Marlin, Jack Cre-

tion of Wetlands Which Benefit Man and Wildlife."

Potholes, marshes and swamps are rapidly dwindling, due largely to drainage for agricultural purposes or for use as industrial sites, airports or roads. Additional wetlands have been hit by drought. "Enough suitable wetland areas must be reserved and held for waterfowl or these resources will dwindle away to insignificance," warned Frensley. \*\*

valle, White Bass, Brown Trout, California Sheepshead.

Insects — Fiery Searcher, Paper Wasp.

Plants—Eastern White Pine, Coconut Palm, Pacific Dogwood, Bird's-foot Violet, Fireweed, Pitcher Plant, Large Blue Iris, Tulip-tree.

The first Wildlife Stamp series was painted single-handedly by J. N. (Ding) Darling, noted newspaper cartoonist, conservation leader and first president of the National Wildlife Federation, in 1938. Other stamps have been issued annually since that time. Income received from the sale of the stamps helps finance educational programs and conservation projects of the Federation which, since incorporation in 1937, has become the nation's largest conservation organization. \*\*

## Lake Attendance Jumps to Record

AN ALL-TIME HIGH OF 17,939,900 visitor days was recorded at the nine U. S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs in Texas during 1961, according to Col. R. P. West, Fort Worth District Engineer.

The year's total was an increase of 1,815,600 over the previous all-time high of 16,124,300 recorded in 1959. In comparison to the 1960 total of 14,918,600, the total visitors in 1961 showed a spectacular increase of 3,021,300.

Lake Whitney retained its position as the most frequented Corps reservoir in the district, with 4,247,300 visitors, the first time in its history that the 4 million mark has been attained.

Three other lakes (Lavon, Garza-Little Elm, and Belton) each had well over 2,000,000 visitors in 1961. Lavon recorded 2,433,400; Garza-Little Elm was next with 2,327,600; and Belton followed with 2,132,900.

In 1961 the most popular activity engaged in was fishing, which attracted 6,054,633 persons. \*\*

# GUNS



## ... and Shooting

This Month: .30-06 TOPS LIST

By L. A. WILKE

**WHEN THE SMOKE** clears away after a hunter has bagged his deer comes the inevitable question, "What kind of gun were you using?"

For the benefit of others, more Texans took deer last season with the .30-06 than any other single caliber.

One of the specific questions on a hunter success survey taken by the *TEXAS GAME & FISH* dealt with the caliber of ammunition used. Although several thousand questionnaires were returned, only 500 were tabulated for this particular purpose.

Of the 500 checked, 164 hunters killed their deer with a .30-06 caliber rifle. The .270 was second with 60 successes, while the oldtimer .30-30 was third with 54. This would indicate that more than 25 percent of Texas hunters used the .30-06, while fewer than 10 percent used the .30-30.

Of the newer calibers, the .308 accounted for 30 kills out of the 500 reported; the .243 brought down 40 deer. But if you think the .300 Savage is out of the picture, take another look. This gun, which is pretty much on the par with the .30-06, .308 and the .270, dropped 42 deer.

Other calibers worth scoring were the .250-3000, 17; .257 Rem., 12; .25-35, 11; .280 Rem., 10; .244, 8; .35 Rem., 13 and the .222 killed 31.

Although apparently there has been a heavy sale in foreign imports, very few kills in the 500 counted were made with either the 7, or 8 mms or the .303 British. The new .264 Winchester was low on the list because of its scarce supply before the hunting season.

Also in the group, three of the hunters said they got their deer with .22 Hornets. One fellow used a .32-20

and another shot his deer with an old .44.

It was interesting to note that each of the .22 Hornet shots were in the neck, considered a vital spot.

In past years the .30-30 was the principal deer hunting caliber in Texas. Most of the old-time hunters still own one. However, with the development of faster loads and scope sights, flatter shooting loads came into the picture.

It was natural that the .30-06 move ahead, because it was the military caliber and many service rifles were sporterized. Then there were such famous guns as the old Winchester 54, which later became the Model 70, and the 30S Remington, which has been replaced by both the 721, 742 and the 760, built for this caliber.

It also is expected that the comparatively new 308 also will move along pretty fast as a sporting arm. This is the new Nato cartridge, and all the arms companies are chambering for it.

Among the smaller calibers the .243 is catching hold, especially for white-tailed deer and antelope.

Another interesting note about last year's hunting was the number of deer shot in the neck. Although the shoulder shot for many years was considered the most certain, nowadays with flat shooting ammunition and good scope sights it is possible for a hunter to place his shots to a better advantage.

All 12 of the deer killed with the .222 were hit in the neck. Each was reported to have dropped in its tracks. This is in no way recommending the use of the .222 for deer shooting, although in the hands of a good shot it is a good load.

I saw three deer killed with .222's during the past season. One of these

was taken with a handload at 110 steps, shot in the neck for an instant kill. A doe shot in the mid-ribs by a 9-year-old boy had to be run down. He also killed another with a shot in the shoulder, but it traveled some distance, too.

The tabulations have not been completed. At some future date a complete breakdown will be given, but this sample 500 probably is indicative of the guns that Texas hunters use. \*\*

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# What Hunters Are Saying:

## Angelina County

"Does were seen in about a 10 to 1 ratio to bucks."

## Anderson County

"In my 'teen years there were no deer in Anderson County. Now with the Engling Area there has been a complete restocking of the whole county. The game department has really done a good job in the last 30 years."

## Austin County

"The deer in this area are small with small racks."

"There was a great number of does, but there were very few bucks. I think it would be a wise idea to have a doe season in Austin County."

"I passed up many fine bucks in search of a bigger one."

"There were very few deer killed in our area."

## Atascosa County

"I would like to see more state land open for public hunts through drawings. I would also like to see a later deer season for the lower country brush counties. Many of the fine "trophy bucks" are never seen on a brush country lease during a mild winter because they will not "run" until cold weather, which is usually in late December and January."

## Bandera County

"On the four-day hunt, I saw probably 150 deer and almost all of them were fat and in good healthy condition. All eight of the deer killed by our party of four were good and fat and had no ticks."

"Deer in this area were in better condition, but there were fewer than in 1960."

"It was a very satisfying hunt this year. I've been hunting for 21 years on the same lease, and I've taken at least one every year and usually two."

"On the lease, we killed more bucks the first day than any first day in previous years. Very few bucks were killed or seen after the first week of the season."

"I believe too many bucks are being killed. The doe and buck ratio is out of line. Possibly it would be better to kill one buck and one doe, or perhaps cut out buck killing altogether for one or two seasons. We need more large bucks, or rather more points."

## Bastrop County

"In bush country best hunting seems to be in early morning or late afternoon. Sitting very quietly under a tree or next to a fallen log seems to produce better results than sitting in a blind."

## Bexar County

"I am in agreement with the proposal for a longer deer hunting season in regulatory counties. I would like to see the season open November 1 and close December 31, as I personally can hunt only on week-ends and holidays. This year the deer completed their rut in the middle of December, and I could not get my second buck, although I got one and a bonus doe."

"The doe shooting has proved successful in Bexar County up until now, but I think that there should not be so many doe permits issued next year."

"The deer were very plentiful, but the horns were not so good. I saw at least 40 bucks, but no real trophy. In previous years, I have always seen four or five trophy heads."

## Blanco County

"If the land owner is given doe permits, the state should set the top price. In my traveling around this season, I noted that these prices have certainly varied from the first to the close of the season."

"There are too many does in the Fredericksburg area, where I hunted, causing the bucks to become smaller every year. At one time I counted 20 does in one bunch and not one buck. This is a common sight in the hill country."

"I think owners are ruining the

deer sport by knocking the timber and by killing does and spike bucks."

## Bosque County

"There seemed to be more deer on the ranch than in any other year."

## Brewster County

"There were a couple of very poor deer taken on the lease the same day. All the other deer were extra fat."

"I have hunted on the ranch for the past 12 years and there were more and fatter deer this year than ever before."

## Brown County

"This deer was shot in an area in which no deer had been taken for many years."

## Colorado County

"I fired two shots. The first shot at 225 yards was a solid hit, but it bobbed the deer's tail about two inches from the top. I have the rest of the tail in my gun cabinet. The second shot at 125 yards was a clean kill."

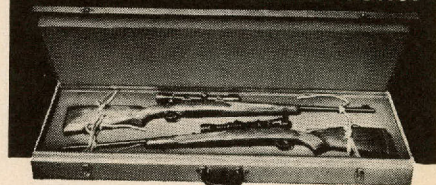
## Culberson County

"It seems as if deer west of the Pecos are greatly on the increase. I believe it should be made a two-deer area."

## Coleman County

"The buck had been wounded in the left foreleg in the knee. Looked like it happened about 10 days or two weeks before we killed him, but he was in very good condition. He was not too tough and had a medium amount of fat."

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# What Others Are Doing

by JOAN PEARSELL

**TROUT FOR TRESPASSERS:** A voluntary stream-management plan, based on a novel switch of the trespass law, is helping to keep good trout water free and open to all fishermen. The stream is the Letort in Pennsylvania, small but with a big reputation. Fishing deteriorated markedly on the Letort's upper reaches in the late '40s and early '50s, when the state's blanket eight-fish creel and six-inch minimum size limits resulted in heavy killing of legal-size stocked trout. Property owners got together, and on opening day of the 1960 trout season the upper Letort was posted with notices warning anglers that they could "trespass and fish" only under certain conditions, including a minimum size limit of 12 inches, a creel limit of four a day, and use of barbless hooks. This trespass-law method of regulation was an immediate success and is being put into effect and studied in other places.

**CHOW CHECK:** From November 1960 to April 1961, 11,684 elk were fed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. The average feeding cost per elk in this period was \$11.04, and the total cost \$129,008.19. The elk were fed an average of 117 days on each of the 22 feed grounds, and a total of 5,152 tons of hay and 93 tons of concentrate was used.

**WINTER INSTRUCTION:** Some of the biological facts of wildlife are being presented this winter in Idaho as adult education forums under local sponsorship in key areas around the state. Subjects on the agenda for discussion include conservation law enforcement, the effects of climate and soil on wildlife production, and management concepts for game animals, birds and fish.

**EFFICIENT FISHING:** Japan in 1960 became the first nation in the

world to catch six million tons of fish in a single year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The world catch for 1960 rose six per cent to a new high of 37.7 million metric tons, of which Japan took 6.2 million or one-sixth. The figures include all seafoods, excluding whales and seals.

**FILMS FILL IN FIREMEN:** A new use was discovered for the Polaroid camera during a fire in Minnesota. A state forest ranger took pictures of the fire from the air while flying at 1,500 feet and then landed where the fire chief was waiting to see the films. The immediately available pictures were a great help to fire crews in planning a drive against the fast-moving blaze.

**THE WRONG CHANEL?:** Commercial Australian fishermen want biologists to find out why millions of fish have been throwing themselves ashore on the northern New South Wales Coast and defying efforts to save them. The fish have been swimming to the beaches with their heads out of water. When people throw them back, they struggle ashore again and die. At one point along the beach is a strong odor that has not been identified. People have been warned not to eat the fish.

**BUBBLES BOOSTER:** A method of aerating the water of ponds and lakes during winter to extend the life of fish is being used in three lakes in Nebraska. A plastic perforated hose is laid at the bottom of the pond or lake before the water freezes. Air is then forced through the hose and into the water by a motor. The constant air movement causes the water to circulate, picking up oxygen at the surface and carrying it back to all levels of the pond. This provides much needed oxygen for the fish.

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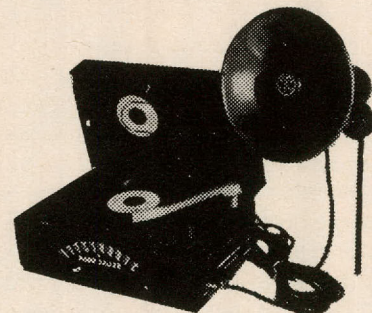
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*Fetch'm*

*From Page 9*

sportsman. It's like an old fellow said, "You pays your money and you takes your choice." He must have been talking about retrievers.

I personally have never had much trouble with doves because I always pick up a downed bird before I fire another shot. Ducks are another matter. Many a day, yours truly has rowed hard and shot half a dozen times at a diving cripple. A retriever could have picked him up while you are reading this paragraph. Also, a retriever will sit beside you in the boat and act as spotter on a duck hunt. He will see ducks first and whine a little to tell you to get on the ball. And believe me, you will never be reproached until you miss a shot. Then he will give you a cold look and make you feel like crawl-

ing under a rug without showing a bump. Don't worry, his only concern will be to please you, and he can't until you score a hit.

Get a young dog now, and have him ready to start next season. Train your dog in the back yard and make a companion of him through the summer, and he will work much harder for you in the fall. Don't expect a young dog to set the world on fire. Retrieving is a highly specialized field, especially in water.

A dove retriever will do a lot of good work the first season. The second year you just worry about the shooting, he will take care of the hits.

A water retriever needs more experience. The first year he will be getting used to what it is all about.

The following season he will give a fair performance with a few outstanding days thrown in just to show he can do it. By the third year you will know your dog and he will know you. He will work himself to death trying to please you.

A retriever usually is a one-man dog. Don't let anyone else give your young dog commands. The young inexperienced dog is easily confused. After he is grown and experienced he will work for nearly any hunter.

A retriever makes a perfect companion for any day's shoot. You get more game for the bag and will leave far fewer cripples to suffer a lingering death. And don't overlook the bolstering effect it will have on your ego when you discover limits can be gotten with fewer shells. You'll find your shooting wasn't so bad after all. \*\*

**Although A.C.B.Y. officially ended last May, it will continue until not a new living thing turns up.**

*Andrews High A.C.B.Y.*

*From Page 19*

a member of six other groups (based on a class of seven students). The leader of the museum display group is the best artist and arranger. This arrangement means that the person designated as a group leader can work with something that interests him, familiarizing himself with the taxonomic keys, life histories, and methods of preservation and preparation, and at the same time know what's going on in the other groups. Every student works with every group. For instance, four students may take the museum special traps over the weekend, which means all seven students will spend the next couple of days measuring, skinning, mounting, and identifying rodents. Or during the spring the entire class may spend weeks collecting, mountings, classifying, typing labels and other jobs related to herbarium work.

In addition to this individual and group work, specific topics are covered by lecture and laboratory techniques. Some topics covered are: introduction to zoogeography, organs and organ systems, modern concepts of the cell, algae-structure and taxonomy, and micro-technique. Students also do outside reading and make reports to the class.

We receive no help from colleges

and universities, except for some plants identified by Dr. B. H. Warnock of Sul Ross, and a lizard identified by Dr. Donald Tinkle of Texas Tech. Also Dr. Warnock has verified identification of many plant specimens.

We do not as yet have all our specimens identified to our own satisfaction, and where any doubt at all exists, we hope to get an outside opinion. Doubt exists mostly in the fields of ornithology and ichthyology. I have one student whose judgment I would trust more than my own in identifying birds. *The Field Guide to the Birds of Texas* has been a great help to us, but color phases of hawks really give us a bad time.

Our own departmental library is our main source of reference material. Some of this is quite technical and even the best students can't be expected to go too far in it. But this material does the job of challenging the brighter students for which this course is designed.

Although A.C.B.Y. officially ended last May, the interesting job of learning what living organisms are found in Andrews County is continuing, and will continue until not a new living thing turns up, which I suspect will be a long, long time from now. In the meantime if anyone in

Andrews County finds a living creature and asks "what is it?", they can find their answer in the Andrews High School Museum; or if not, we will certainly try to find the answer. \*\*

The chameleon was supposed to be able to perform such prodigies of endurance that the Greeks were moved to honor him by calling him "chimai-leon"—little lion.

Like the chameleon, the tree toad can change its color to blend with tree bark or the bright green of new leaves.

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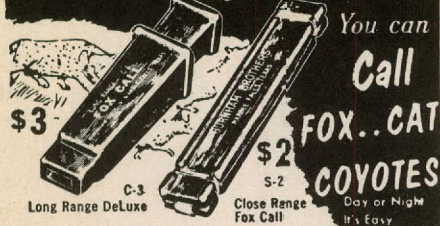
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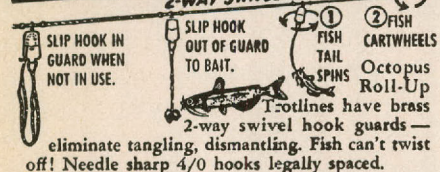
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## New Officers For T.O.W.A.

ED HOLDER OF THE PORT ARTHUR NEWS was elected president of the Texas Outdoor Writers Association at TOWA's annual convention Saturday at Sunrise Marina on Lake Granite Shoals near Marble Falls. He succeeds Dan Klepper of the San Antonio Express-News.

Chosen for vice president was Dick McCune of the Dallas Times-Herald. Teaming with McCune as second vice president for the coming year will be Curtis Carpenter of the Texas Game & Fish magazine.

Re-elected secretary-treasurer and editor of the Association's Monthly Bulletin was Vern Sanford of Austin, general manager of the Texas Press Association.

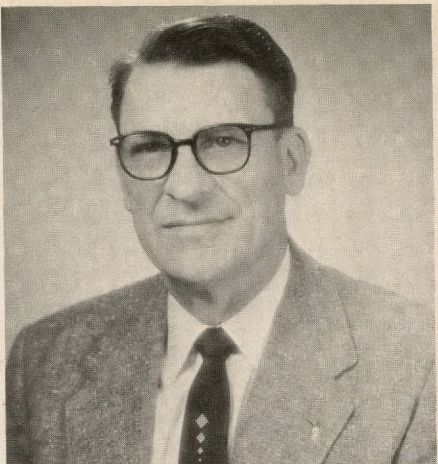
Klepper was named to membership on the Board of Directors along with A. C. Becker Jr. of the Galveston News-Tribune; Charles Cadieux, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Antonio; John Thompson, San Angelo Standard-Times; Jerry Zuber, Silsbee Bee; and Hal Swiggett, San Antonio Express-News.

The writers named McCune chairman of a committee to work with the State Parks Board to create more interest in and improvement of Texas state parks, especially as relates to fishing and hunting.

In addition, a proposal that Texas adopt a \$1 a year wheel tax, to be turned to the State Parks Board for use in improving State park facilities, was referred to McCune's committee for action. Also referred was a proposal for utilizing the parks in case of enemy attacks.

Sandy Sanford of the Texas Press

## Commissioner Named



Morris Higley, longtime resident of the Childress area, has been appointed by Governor Price Daniel as the new commissioner for the Texas Game and Fish Commission. Higley, publisher of the Childress Index, has always been sincerely concerned about Texas Wildlife. He replaces Robert G. Carr of San Angelo.

Association was named to investigate the possibilities of teaching outdoor skills throughout the Texas public schools system.

Freeport was selected as the site for TOWA's summer convention with definite dates yet to be determined.

T. D. Carroll, coordinator of information and education for the Texas Game and Fish Commission, projected a color film on the preservation of wildlife entitled "Trail of the Whitetail."

Carroll was followed by Tom Kelly, lecturer from Minneapolis, Minnesota, who presented a chalk talk on conservation.

On behalf of Jack Bartholomew, manager of Port Isabel Marina, Gus Getner, outdoor writer from Westlaco, extended an invitation to TOWAers to be his guests following the opening of the new Marina in June. \*\*

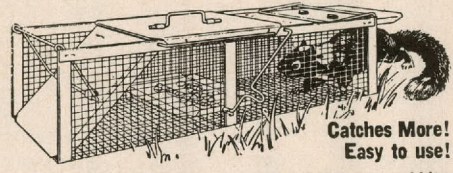
### REGISTERED BRITTANIES

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## Screwworm Flies Up for Eradication

REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE MAHON, (Dem. Texas) one of the ranking members of the House of Representative Appropriations Committee, reports that President Kennedy has requested that Congress provide \$3 million for eradicating screwworms from the Southwest. This special supplemental appropriation would cover eradication work by the Department of Agriculture against this destructive pest for the next 18 months and would allow an immediate start on this project.

These special funds were requested at this time because unusually cold weather has killed most of the screwworm flies that normally overwinter in Southern Texas.

The special appropriation and the prompt action is contingent on local sources in Texas and the Southwest providing matching resources.

"Stockmen, through the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation, are already well on their way to providing equal resources," C. G. Scruggs, president of the foundation and editor of *The Progressive Farmer* of Dallas, said. "A fund drive among stockmen in 230 Texas counties plus some parishes in Louisiana in anticipation of such need, is in high gear now," he said. Scruggs estimates that stockmen will have voluntarily contributed more than a million dollars to the Foundation. "And the drive throughout the state is just beginning to reach its peak."

"We have full confidence that the stockmen of Texas and the Southwest will meet their responsibilities in this program," Scruggs said. "Texans have always proved that they can carry their share of any load and I'm sure this will be no exception."

The funds to be provided by the Congress and local sources will be used to produce and distribute sexually sterile screwworm flies, key to the eradication program.

The sterile fly technique, developed and proved by U. S. Department of Agriculture scientists in eradicating the flesh eating screwworm from the Southeast in 1959, involves the aerial release of millions of man-raised flies that are made

sexually sterile by exposure to radioactive material. When the sterile males mate with native female flies, eggs deposited by the females do not hatch. As a result the flies breed themselves out of existence as continued releases of sterile flies are made. When this is done, the entire Southwest, including Oklahoma, Louisiana and New Mexico, will be screwworm free.

"By moving fast the costs of an eradication program can be cut nearly in half," Scruggs said. "Therefore, the news that the federal officials are acting now is wonderful."

## It Happened This Way . . .

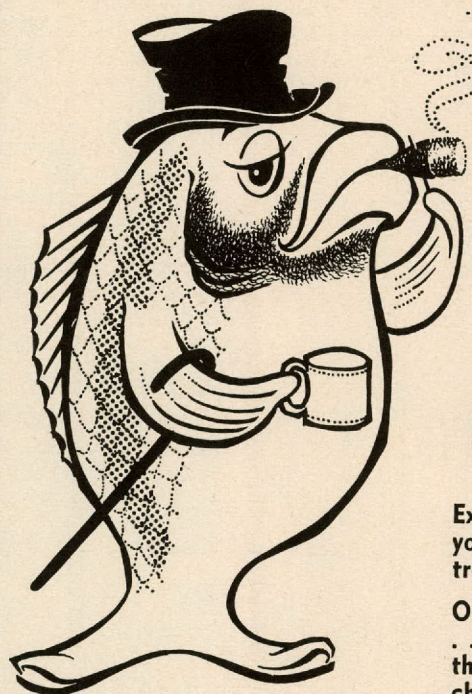
A FEW YEARS BACK there was a considerable amount of deer selling centered in the heart of the hill country. An undercover warden was sent there to pose as a green deer hunter. He scouted this town and concentrated his activities around possible hangouts.

A pool hall was located next to the Chamber of Commerce and in the huge picture window of the office was a stuffed mountain lion.

One evening this "green deer hunter" was standing in front of the window looking at the lion and thinking how ferocious it looked. He remarked to a man standing there with him that he had decided not to go hunting if such animals roamed the woods.

Accepting the bait, the fellow offered to sell him a nice buck, if he was afraid to go hunting himself. They met the following night and after the exchange of goods, the warden told him who he was and when to meet him at the court house.

The crowning blow for the poacher came after he had pleaded guilty and paid his fine, when the warden explained that the mountain lion in the window was one he had trapped some years before. \*\*



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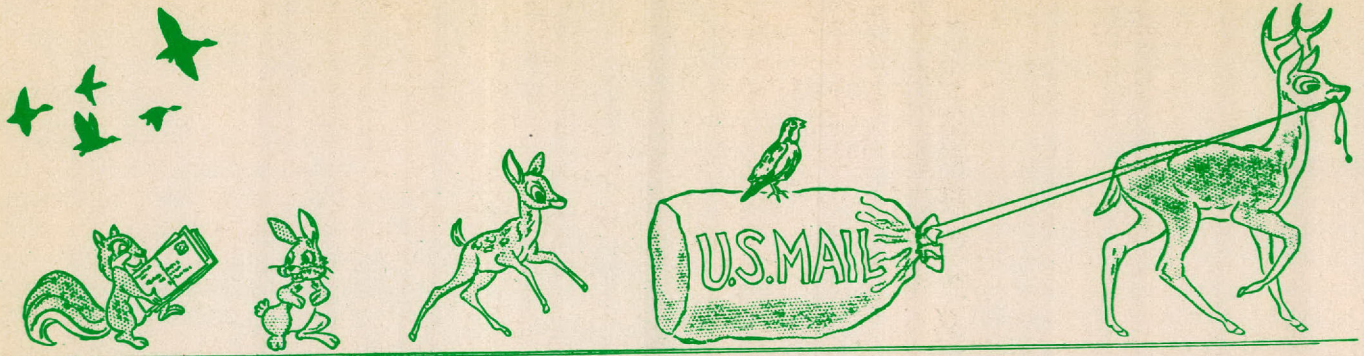
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## Pip Pip, Old Chap



Editor:

Here is a picture of a deer head I mounted for a Mr. Mauermann of Houston. He dressed it up and sent me a picture.

Louis H. Marion  
New Braunfels

## Pass it on to a Pal

Editor:

I have been a subscriber to *TEXAS GAME AND FISH* for many years now and just don't know how I could ever do without it. After consuming each edition thoroughly, I pass it on to a young friend of mine who is also a lover of hunting and fishing.

More power to your magazine and the wonderful educational entertainment it furnishes us all each month.

P. D. Marable  
Clarksville

## Peccary Palaver

Editor:

It was a real pleasure to read a true, factual account of the javelina in the January issue. Don't know this Dan Klepper, but his story should help convince some doubters.

As a professional javelina guide, I have been in on the kill of over 175 peccaries and have personally killed 33 of them. Also, I have authored 14 articles on the much maligned javelina, and have written a book (unpublished) on this fine game animal.

You might be interested to read the results of the first officially recognized javelina contest in Arizona. Pinney and Robinson Sporting Goods of Phoenix sponsored the contest and I was the judge. In five years, 167 javelinas were checked in—the average dressed weight was just under 34 pounds. We also measured 160 sets of tusks and found the average to be 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The heaviest boar went 44 pounds and 10 ounces. The big sow went 41 pounds and 7 ounces. We measured one set of tusks that were an even two inches long.

As editor of Arizona Wildlife Sportsman Magazine, I keep the game and fish records of Arizona. The heaviest javelina ever put on scales here weighed 54 pounds

dressed. The next heaviest were 52 pounds and 4 ounces, 52, 48, and 47. These are, however, exceptional javelinas.

In two decades of hunting the peccary, I have tabulated 1765 in the field. I have killed them with rifle, bow and arrow, and pistol. Klepper is a hundred per cent correct when he says these animals are not dangerous, and those persons saying they are, are totally unfamiliar with the animal.

Bob Housholder, Editor  
Arizona Wildlife Sportsman  
Phoenix, Arizona

## Ten Years of Good Reading

Editor:

I have read your article, "Birthday of a Magazine," in the January issue of *TEXAS GAME AND FISH*.

Having been a subscriber for the past ten years, I think you have done a wonderful job as *TEXAS GAME AND FISH* is the best magazine printed for the benefit of sportsmen. Keep up the good work.

F. W. Stevens  
San Antonio

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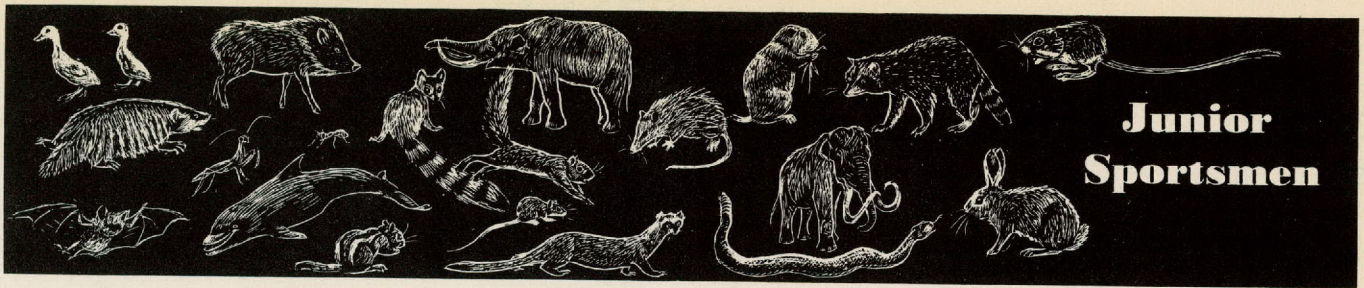
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# Junior Sportsmen

## QUIZ, KIDS

by ANN STREETMAN

**H**ERE IS A WILDLIFE QUIZ to test your memory and general wildlife knowledge. Some of the answers are facts that have appeared on the Junior Sportsmen page and other pages of the magazine during recent months. The answers are at the bottom of the page. Don't peek until you've filled in all the blanks. Good Luck!

1. What "tiny dinosaur" of the insect world enjoys a diet of moths, crickets, beetles, flies, butterflies and other small insects?  
.....
2. Which little mammal scares its enemy, the rattlesnake, by kicking sand in its eyes?  
.....
3. Which mammal has a black mask on its face and a long bushy tail?  
.....
4. What is another name for a porpoise?  
.....
5. What is the name of a pre-historic elephant whose fossils have been found in a cave near San Antonio?  
.....
6. Which little animal has several white and brown stripes down its back?  
.....
7. Which mammal has a face similar to a fox and a tail similar to a raccoon?  
.....
8. What is another name for the collared peccary?  
.....
9. What mammal mother carries her babies on her back?  
.....
10. What are baby swans called?  
.....

## BUCK OF THE MONTH



Stanley Lindsey, nine-year-old San Antonio youth, shot his first buck in the 1961 season on a lease in Frio County. He got his three point buck with an army 30 carbine at 87 steps.

the United States which lay eggs?

I have hunted every season we've had this year except deer season and duck and goose season. I killed a number of doves, squirrels, and quail. I enjoy your magazine very much and I hope you keep up the good work.

Jim Graves  
Judson

(Bats do not lay eggs. They, like most mammals, bear their young alive. Only a few very rare mammals lay eggs.)

## FAUNA FACTS

The tiny bat has a big appetite. It will eat a quarter of its weight at one meal and more than half its weight every night.

\* \* \*

Badgers have an excellent "disappearing act." Using all four feet and its mouth, it can dig itself out of sight in a few seconds.

\* \* \*

At one time, prairie dog villages stretched over a hundred miles and more than 400 thousand of the little animals inhabited these villages.

\* \* \*

Skinks are ground lizards with smooth, flat, polished-looking scales and short legs. They feed on insects and spiders and hibernate in the wintertime.

\* \* \*

The ant has two stomachs. One he uses for himself. In the other, he stores food which is to be shared with other ants in the nest.

\* \* \*

Insects have no lungs. They breathe through tubes running all through their bodies.

\* \* \*

Porcupines, squirrels, rabbits and mice gnaw at deer antlers, after they are discarded, to satisfy their craving for calcium and other minerals.

\* \* \*

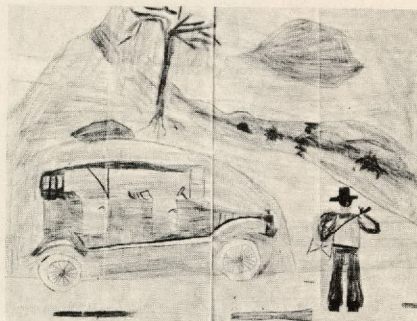
The porpoise (bottle-nosed dolphin) seems to converse with its fellows. The sounds, however, do not come from the mouth but from the blowhole on top of its head.

\* \* \*

Unlike other rabbits, the swamp rabbit is unafraid to cross streams. Its dense fur seems to serve as a waterproof coat.

\* \* \*

## ART EXHIBIT



Editor:

In this letter I have drawn a picture which I thought you might like to use in your TEXAS GAME AND FISH magazine. I like it very much.

I did the drawing all by myself.

Duane Medford (age 11)  
Fort Worth

## DO BATS LAY EGGS?

Editor:

I am 13, and I love to hunt and fish. I have a question. Are there any bats in

1. "praying" mantis; 2. Kangaroo rat; 3. raccoon; 4. dolphin; 5. mammoth; 6. chipmunk; 7. ring-tail cat; 8. javelina; 9. opossum; 10. cygnets.

# S A W F I S H

*Pristis pectinatus*, better known as a sawfish, is a sharklike ray, not to be confused with a swordfish. It prefers warm seas and is common in the Gulf. Well camouflaged by its grayish color, the sawfish slashes into a school of small fish, literally sawing them to bits. Small marine organisms supplement its diet. It may appear to be sluggish but can put up a respectable battle on a line. The young are born

alive, with their sharp miniature saws covered by a protective sheath. This is shed soon after birth. Average length is 10 feet. World's record sawfish was taken at Galveston measuring 14 feet seven inches and weighing 736 pounds.

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