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E. J. KELLY, Secretary ........................................... Ottawa
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H. M. GILLESPIE ..................................................... Wichita
GARLAND ATKINS .................................................... Fort Scott
ELMER E. EUWER .................................................... Goodland

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LEONARD SUTHERLAND, Superintendent ....................... Meade County Pheasant Farm
CHARLES TROXEL, Superintendent ................................ Quail Farm, Pittsburg
SETH WAY ............................................................... Fish Culturist
LEO BROWN ............................................................ Biologist

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B. N. MULLENDORF .................................................... Howard

PUBLICITY

HELEN DEVault ........................................................ Pratt

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PAULETTE & WILSON, Consulting Engineers ....................... Salina
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STATE PARK AND LAKE SUPERINTENDENTS

DUANE CARPENTER, Butler County State Park ..................... Augusta
W. L. THOMAS, Crawford County State Park ...................... Pittsburg
LEE G. HENRY, Leavenworth County State Park ................. Tonganoxie
JOHN CARLTON, Meade County State Park ....................... Meade
W. F. PEGGOTT, Neosho County State Park ....................... St. Paul
GEORGE M. CORY, Oberlin Sappa State Park ..................... Oberlin
C. R. DAMRON, Ottawa County State Park ....................... Minneapolis
B. E. HALE, Scott County State Park ................................ Scott City
A. M. SPRIGGS, Woodson County State Park ...................... Yates Center
Duck Season

Sunrise, October 16, marks the opening of the 1940 hunting season in Kansas. From that time until the evening of December 15, Kansas nimrods are privileged to hunt ducks, geese and other migratory waterfowl. We would refer the reader to the last page of this publication for information relative to shooting hours, shooting methods and bag limits. Reports reaching this office indicate that we are destined to have a very favorable duck and goose season this year.

The tabulation which follows is the time of sunrise at Topeka for each of the sixty days of the 1940 migratory waterfowl season. Four minutes should be added to the above time for each degree of longitude east of Topeka, or, perhaps a more simple way of figuring the time of sunrise in a given locality would be to add or deduct four minutes for each fifty miles due west or due east of Topeka.

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Snipes, Rails and Gallinules—Sunrise to sunset.

Pheasant Season

The commission has declared a season on pheasants in Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Smith, Jewell, Republic, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Graham, Rooks, Osborne, Mitchell, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis and Russell counties on November 1, 2 and 3. Shooting hours under state law, shall not be earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than sunset. Daily bag limit, 2 cocks and 1 hen; season bag limit, not to exceed two days' bag limit.

Pheasant Hunting

Last year the writer had his first experience in the pheasant fields. Being a novice and thrown in the company of such expert pheasant hunters as Wint Smith, John De Long, Guy D. Josserand, John Shay and others, my duties during the first few hours hunt were in the capacity of bushboy. As such, I was detailed to flush all birds and retrieve those killed. From the mistakes, and not the skill, of these mighty sons of Nimrod, I acquired a great deal of knowledge about pheasant hunting.

They were experts without peers, however, in directing their bushboy to good pheasant cover. From the cover along the roadways, sloughs and stream banks many birds were flushed. These birds I learned to my astonishment were lightning fast, leaving the ground with the roar of a Model T and climbing from fifty to one hundred feet before leveling off into a straight line of flight.

In utter disgust I watched the experts score many misses in shooting at what to me seemed to be a large and slowly moving target. The misses, of course, brought forth many alibis, one blamed his gun, another his wife for neglecting his fouling piece, another held the war and the administration responsible for inferior shells. The truth of the matter is they were not shooting as experts.

They were too fast on the trigger and did not give the bird the proper lead. Most of the authorities on this subject are agreed that the birds should be led by a distance of eight to twelve feet, the exact distance
green head and white ring around its neck, a rich brown body trailing a long colored tail, he promised to respect the law and refrain from shooting at the plain blended, light brown dusky hen.

After about three hours in the field, someone opined that the morning’s shoot was over and proposed that we return to town. Since we were all of the same age and girth, we unanimously agreed to the proposal.

We returned to the field about feeding time. To me the field of glory. With three shots, three birds. This statement, by the way, has been questioned by many, but never disproved. As I out-shot the experts, I feel qualified to give advice to the novice who goes to the pheasant country for the first time this year.

My advice would be to select likely looking fields and visit them during the early morning and late afternoon. These times are considered to be the best pheasant hunting times. Look for your birds where the cover is heaviest along the roadways, sloughs and streams. Don’t get excited or startled when the bird leaves the ground. Take careful aim, lead the bird by eight to twelve feet. If you use a dog, keep him at hand or your birds will be flushed beyond killing range. Shoot when the bird is within killing distance. If, unfortunately, you cripple a bird and your second shot doesn’t stop him, watch him closely or he will be lost to you.

Limits on quail (bobwhite and scaled) 10 a day, for the season.

Chicken Season Closed

After concluding a survey of the supply of prairie chickens in the counties where they are known to be congregated, the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission deemed it unwise to open the season this year. Although there are many birds in certain areas, the commission felt that an open season this year would not be justified.

Don’t Forget

If you are over sixteen years of age and hunt ducks, you are required by federal law to be possessed of a migratory bird stamp.

If you hunt quail and are not exempt from the requirement of having a state license, you must be possessed of a quail stamp.

Duck stamps may be procured from your post office and the quail stamp from the county clerk.

One hundred thirty-three eggs in as many days is the laying record of one quail hen at the Calista quail farm. The “Duchess,” another champion layer, has dropped five hundred and fifty eggs during the past four years.
burst away like a ‘feathered bombshell’ if surprised by the enemy. When hunted they often take refuge in almost impenetrable thickets and swamps. They have learned by necessity the art of concealment. A full-plumaged male will flatten himself and disappear on ground almost as open as a well-kept lawn, and the full bevy needs only a few overhanging fern fronds or a leafy spray to render their concealment perfect. At need, bobwhite can disappear in the open before one’s very eyes and reappear again from the same spot as if he had for the time being put on the cloak of invisibility. Sometimes he appears to give no scent and the dogs cannot find him.

“There is some evidence of occasional southward migration for comparatively short distances. These occur at the approach of winter. Severe northern winters sometimes almost exterminate the bevies. Resting on the ground as they do at night, a heavy snowstorm may cover them. If, as sometimes occurs, rain follows the snow and is succeeded by freezing weather a crust is formed that imprisons the poor birds by thousands and starvation follows. Continued deep snows alone may decimate the species by covering deeply their food and the gravel so necessary to their digestion. Those who feed bobwhite in winter always should include coarse sand or grit with the grain.

“Hard winters and an increasing number of gunners have reduced greatly the numbers of this bird in the northern parts of its range, but we are beginning to learn how to propagate it artificially. In the coming years it may be quite possible to breed the species in unlimited numbers.

Believe It Or Not

Here is a man bite dog variety of story sent in by district game protector Art Benander. “I was going past an old sawmill the other day and saw a rabbit that I thought was going crazy; jumping up in the air and kicking at something, I didn’t know what, for I saw nothing. I stopped to make an investigation and here is what I found.

There was a large blacksnake trying to get away from the rabbit; the rabbit would run for the snake, jump toward the snake and kick with its hind legs, then repeat the same thing again and again. While I watched, it did this ten or a dozen times, then, seeing me, it ran away. I killed the snake and found the rabbit had cut through the hide in seven different places, gashes about two inches long.

Looking around, I found that the rabbit had a nest of young in the sawdust pile of this old mill.

I have heard of animals doing a lot of queer things to protect their young, but this is the first time I ever witnessed a fight between a cottontail and a black-snake”
Reviving an Old One

The Kansas Fish and Game Department, which hailed down its battle flag but did not retreat from its theoretical position in the ill-fated war over the marauding house cat, found in the last issue of Collier's magazine a measure of authoritative, outside vindication. Corey Ford and Alastair MacBain, writing of “Happier Hunting Grounds,” appealed to the public to give the sportsmen a break in matters of dwindling game supply. They recite these facts.

"Out of every hundred birds killed in a year, according to statistics, the much-maligned hunter accounts for less than five. Fifty birds a year—half the birds killed annually in this country—are the victims of wild life's dreaded fuehrer, the prowling domestic house cat. Another twenty-five percent is destroyed by a sort of wild life fifth column of predatory foxes, hawks, crows, weasels and skunks. The remainder are victims of forest fires and disease and miscellaneous causes. And the sportsmen, in exchange for his modest toll of five birds, is wild life's most loyal year 'round ally in its fight against all its other enemies."

The sportsmen will no doubt read the Corey-MacBain offering with evident satisfaction and might even dare an "I told you so," but to reopen the fight probably is a rocky road they may not care to travel again. Meanwhile the Fish and Game Department representatives report it is striving mightily to give wild life back to Kansas despite cats, and with considerable success.—Salina Journal.

Game Bird Production High

The propagation and distribution of quail, pheasants and chukar partridge constituted one of the major activities of the commission during the past year, and the results of our efforts in this regard, have been very gratifying.

The production of bobwhite quail at Calista and Pittsburg quail farms was in excess of twenty-thousand birds, a record never before attained. The production of birds at the Meade County Pheasant-Chukar Partridge Farm will be in excess of ten thousand birds.

In order to familiarize our readers with our work in artificial propagation of pheasants and chukar partridge, let us say that many attempts have been made heretofore with varying degrees of success to introduce these birds into Kansas. Our first attempt, and it was reasonably successful, was undertaken with brood stock purchased from other states. The progeny of this foundation stock have shown a satisfactory increase. Our later attempt to increase our pheasant supply through the distribution of pheasant eggs to sportsmen, farmers and other interested groups was not successful. Reports filed in connection with this venture, clearly indicate that the eggs were improperly handled and that the sportsmen's enthusiasm in getting a pheasant from an egg was not enduring.

To avoid further waste of time and effort in stocking pheasants in Kansas, the commission requested the establishment of the Meade county project. This is a very modern plant and in order that you may understand what is being done toward the propagation of game birds in this state, we will briefly discuss this plant.

The physical properties at this plant include, in addition to several small laying pens, one large laying pen enclosing sixty cockerels and three hundred hens; incubator rooms; three large brooder houses and a twelve-acre hardening or holding pen.

The cycle from egg to game field is a matter of strict routine. The eggs being gathered at regular intervals are transferred to ultramodern incubators designed especially for handling game-bird eggs. After twenty days in these automatically controlled incubators, the eggs, if found fertile, are placed in hatching units for the three or four days required to complete the hatching process. The birds begin life in earnest at this time. They are fed their first meal, hard-boiled egg yolks, chopped lettuce and other starting rations. The next five or six weeks are spent in the brooder houses and then to the twelve-acre hardening or holding pen. The purpose of the holding pen is to develop the wing and flight muscles of the birds that are soon to be released.

The birds are taken from the holding pens to the game fields at about ten or twelve weeks of age. All birds liberated are banded and a very definite record is kept of the several thousand birds raised and delivered to our game fields.

Quick Death Saves Furs

Up-to-date fur-animal farmers now carry an inexpensive electrocution “chamber” in their pockets, thanks to investigators of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Previously fur breeders who attempted to dispatch their animals as humanely as possible were often compelled to resort to more drastic methods.

Now a farmer uses two electrodes, properly insulated, and a connecting switch that plugs into an ordinary light socket. These are properly arranged to form a circuit through the animal, the electric current is turned on for one second, and the animal is dead.

Humane society officials have approved this simple method because it is both quick and inexpensive, and Fish and Wildlife Service experts claim that not only does this method cause the least pain to the animals but it also saves the pelt from injury.
The Result of the Harvest
Is in the Seed

We need not remind you that a benevolent nature has blessed this state with an abundant game crop and that the time for the harvest is nigh.

We would remind the eighty thousand or more harvesters that the result of a harvest is in the seed. And that the soil must be prepared and the seed replanted now if future crops are to be harvested.

The seed we would have you plant now is one of prevention. While you are afield this year, you can, by keeping your eyes open, discover many effective ways in which you can prevent the loss of birds during the predicated severe winter to come. Remember next year's game crop depends on the ability of the birds to survive the winter in a good healthy condition.

Here are one or two suggestions. Ask your farmer friend to leave a few rows of grain standing near the game coverts. If this is not possible, build your feeding stations now and arrange with the landowner for the subsequent work that will be necessary in connection with them. He will appreciate your interest in the welfare of the birds on his farm. Another worthwhile action at this time is the construction of winter shelters. This is not a difficult task, the necessary materials needed in constructing these shelters is usually to be found near at hand. We are picturing in this issue of the BULLETIN, two types of practical shelters, used on most of our game refuges.

Don't Kill

You and I, Mr. Sportsman, will be making one of our all too infrequent trips to woods and fields in pursuit of our favorite game bird. While there, we will catch ourselves blazing away at every hawk and owl that flies between us and the horizon, honestly believing that we are aiding nature and liquidating a predator.

The relation of one species of bird to another, is one of nature's secrets, about which we, you and I, are woefully ignorant. This should cause us very little worry, however, as the subject is equally confounding to scientists and ornithologists.

We do know, that of the several hawks only three, the sharp-shinned, Cooper's and goshawk, are harmful. One owl, the great horned owl, can be properly classed as a predator. All other hawks and owls are considered to be friends of the sportsmen and farmers. To shoot everything that flies results in only one thing, the killing of many beneficial birds.

There are other ways in which we can more effectively aid Mother Nature. We can help by restoring some of the cover we thoughtlessly destroyed in cleaning our fields and straightening our highways. The restoration of this cover will provide welcomed places of safety and concealment for our upland game birds and valuable fur-bearing animals. Good cover is sufficient to take care of the predator problem for all times.

Ducks, Brant, Geese and Coots—Sunrise to 4 p.m.

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FROM OTHER PENS

It has been suggested time and time again, that we use one page of this publication to direct the angler and hunter to good fishing and hunting places. In previous issues we have tried, as far as practical, to do that very thing. We are, of course, hesitant to say definitely where the best places are to be found. The fish and game, particularly the fish, have a tendency to move about, thereby upsetting all of our predictions. We will continue to give you the reports on conditions as we receive them from our field representatives and other sportsmen.

There are many pheasants in Wallace county around Sharon Springs. In Rawlins and Sherman counties the cover is heavy and hunting will be hunting this year. Ponds and draws hold plenty of water which bespeaks a good hunting season in western Kansas. — Golden.

We expect good duck hunting in Osborne county this year. We have had good rains, the ponds are full of water with many ducks on them.—Henry Miebergens, Downs.

Lagoons in northwest Kansas full of water with ducks on all of them. If the water holds out, this part of the state will provide the sportsmen with splendid duck hunting opportunities. Good crop of pheasants throughout the twenty-one open counties.—Faulkner.

Grass and other cover good in the sand hills. Engles, a ranchman living southwest of Garden City, says that he has between two hundred and three hundred prairie chickens on his ranch.

The Garden City sportsmen are working hard to reestablish the Garden City game preserve as a factor in the natural propagation of prairie chickens and other game birds. Lester McCoy, Verne Mayo, Eugene Kelly and Harry Bough, have planted thirty acres of grain within the preserve to encourage the birds to remain there. Thousands of ducks now in western Kansas. Plenty of feed and water here to attract them.—Gebhard.

Nearly every farmer in the open counties report having pheasants on their farms. Northwest Kansas is destined to have its best hunting season this year. Pheasants are plentiful following a good breeding season. Thousands of ducks are to be found on the ponds throughout my district.—Jones.

Prospects for a good quail season in my district this fall are encouraging. We wintered more quail than usual this year and the spring hatch was way above normal. There is an abundance of cover throughout my entire district and I confidently predict that the hunters visiting this section of the state will have little trouble in securing their legal limits.—Kysier.

Hunters will find lots of quail in Miami, Franklin and Southwest Johnson counties. Fish conditions in my district are very good, but the fishermen are few due to the cool weather. The hardy ones are taking nice strings of crappie in the Marais des Cygnes west of Ottawa.

The Lone Star Lake near Lawrence is also a good fishing spot in this district.

The sportsmen will find many areas posted against trespassing in Eastern Kansas, but in spite of these postings they can usually hunt on these areas if they will convince the landowner that they will act as sportsmen while on his property.—Mineckley.
Sportsmen Meet at Pratt

Many interesting discussions were held and many resolutions adopted by the delegation of sportsmen attending the first annual convention of the Kansas Fish and Game Development Association meeting at Pratt, October 6 and 7.

Among the resolutions adopted were those pledging the association to further advance the nonpartisan principles begun by the present administration.

Another resolution was introduced and adopted recommending a policy of closer cooperation of farmers and sportsmen.

And another opposing the use of poison to kill rabbits in shelter belts.

The fourth resolution was introduced to make distribution of all fish and game through the county organizations where they have been organized.

The convention elected as officers for the ensuing year the following: Ed Dumm, of Emporia, president; Fred Kahn, Lawrence, vice-president; George R. Gould, Dodge City, secretary and treasurer.

The following directors were elected:

**First District:** Otto Grundeman, Holton; Fred Kahn, Lawrence. Alternate, O. G. Boling, Leavenworth.

**Second District:** Ed Murray, Herington; George Wallerius, Salina. Alternate, E. H. Bradshaw, Council Grove.

**Third District:** Martin Satliffe, Grainfield; V. A. Perkins, Plainville. Alternate, O. M. Goodrich.

**Fourth District:** E. S. Dumm, Emporia; Dee McQuillan, Cherryvale. Alternate, J. R. Nuttle, El Dorado.

**Fifth District:** Dr. W. M. Benefiel, Kingman; Frank W. Robl, Ellinwood. Alternate, Ben Jones, Hutchinson.

**Sixth District:** Geo. R. Gould, Dodge City; R. E. Stotts, Garden City. Alternate, Don Brubaker, Hugoton.

Frank Robl, retiring president, made a report of the association's activities for the past year and highly commended the Fish and Game Commission for the support and cooperation it had given to the organization. He called the delegates' attention to the fact that this administration's early promise to remove the fish and game commission from partisan politics had been fulfilled, this being one of the first bills passed by the legislature.

**CONVENTION NOTES**

Lee Larrabee, chairman of the commission, informed the delegates that no action had been taken by the commission to alter the quail season. He said that the commission's duty is to give the sportsmen as long a season as the crop of birds will justify.

Carl Teichman, delegate from the Stafford County Association, informed the assembly that his county was opposed to the proposed staggered quail season.

Dr. L. C. Cox, the alternate delegate from the Leavenworth County Association, suggested that part of the annual meeting be designated and planned as "an institute of learning." This suggestion was heartily endorsed by the other delegates.

President Frank Robl suggested a crow-killing campaign. The banding of crows and awarding of prizes for the returned bands from killed crows.

E. S. Dumm, vice-president of the association, complimented the commission on its present system of game protection. He stated that for the first time in twenty years all fishing was legally done after the waters receded from the flooded rivers and lakes of his district.

George Barnum, of the Reno County Association, advocates the education of the public on observing fish and game laws, particularly today's youngsters.

Verne Mayo, alternate delegate from Finney county, spoke of the conditions in Finney county. He said the pleasant crop in that locality was very good and that they were trying to encourage the return of prairie chickens to that county. Mr. Mayo stated that the farmers were giving the Finney County Association wholehearted cooperation.

George R. Gould, chairman of committee on constitution and bylaws, moved that article 2, section 1, of the Kansas Fish and Game Development Association bylaws be amended, to read as follows: "Section 1. Any county-wide organized fish and game development association may become a member of this association by applying for membership, by being approved by the board of directors and paying ten cents per year dues for each member of the association, provided, however, that the minimum membership fee shall be $25. An association that has not paid its current year's dues shall not be entitled to vote in this association. Only one association in a county may become a member." The motion was seconded and the bylaw so amended.

Mr. Gould further moved that article 3, section 1, of the bylaws of this association be amended to read as follows: "Section 1. The regular business meeting of this association shall be held annually in October on a day to be designated by the board of directors." The motion was seconded and carried, and the bylaw so amended.

Mr. Ernest Pontius, delegate from Douglas County Sportsman's Association, moved that article 4, section 1, of the bylaws of this association be amended by adding to that section the following: "Resolved, in addition to the aforesaid directors, each fish and game commissioner's district shall elect at the same time and in the same manner as the directors of the association are elected, an alternate director for each director. The alternate director is entitled to serve as a director and have the full vote as a director in the case of the absence of the originally elected director of this association."

Ben Jones, Hutchinson, of the Reno County Association, said they approved the training and educational work which is being done by the Commission and the association in conjunction with their district and county protectors. Mr. Jones emphasized that protectors, both district and county, should be trained to make friends, even while making arrests.

Frank Robl pointed out that the attendance of women and children should be urged at the county association meetings; that pictures of all sorts were available and formed an entertaining and instructive program.
Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Ducks, Brant, Geese, Coots, Wilson's and Jack Snipes and Rails

SEASON DATES:
(Inclusive)
Ducks, Brant, Geese, Coots, Snipes—October 16 to December 14, inclusive.
Rails and Gallinules—September 1 to November 30, inclusive.

SHOOTING HOURS:
Ducks, Brant, Geese and Coots—Sunrise to 4 p.m.
Snipes, Rails and Gallinules—Sunrise to Sunset.

BAG LIMITS:
(Ducks—10 in the aggregate of all kinds, of which not more than 3 of any one, or more than 3 in the aggregate may be of the following species: Canvasback, Redhead, Ruddy, and Bufflehead.
Season closed on Wood Ducks.
GESE OR BRANT—3 in the aggregate of all kinds.
COOTS—25.
RAILS, GALLINULES—15 in the aggregate of all kinds.
SNIPE—15.

POSSESSION LIMIT:
Two Days' Kill.

FEDERAL DUCK STAMP:
Must be had when taking any kind of migratory WATERFOWL (Ducks, Geese, Brant); persons under 16 years of age exempt. Stamp may be purchased at any first- or second-class post office.

DOVES:
SEASON DATES:
September 1 to November 15, both dates inclusive.
BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT:
12.
SHOOTING HOURS:
Sunrise to Sunset.
METHOD OF TAKING MIGRATORY BIRDS:
Feeding or baiting prohibited; shotguns of three-shell capacity, not larger than 10 gauge, and bow and arrows permitted.

Possession time limit on migratory game birds—20 days after the OPEN season in the state where taken

FOX SQUIRRELS:
August 1 to January 1.

QUAIL:
November 20 to 30.
Daily Bag Limit 10. Season limit 25.

PRAIRIE CHICKEN:
SEASON CLOSED.

PEHASANTS:
Daily Bag Limit 3: 2 cocks, 1 hen.
Season Limit 6.

FUR-BEARING ANIMALS:
December 1 to January 31.
Beaver and Otter—SEASON CLOSED.

BE A GOOD SPORT. TAKE YOUR SHARE ONLY. THANK YOU.