NOTICE

All state lakes heretofore closed to fishing at sun down, will be opened to all night fishing.
Fred Kahn, an enthusiastic sportsman of Lawrence, has asked us to continue with a brief history of the early Fish Commissioners. The theme is continued in this issue of the bulletin from the appointment of Commissioner Fee to the Administration of Professor L. L. Dyche. This information is from records available to us.

The Honorable S. P. Fee of Wamego was appointed Fish Commissioner by Governor John A. Martin, on April 1, 1885. "Being an ardent carp enthusiast the Commissioner urged Governor Martin to accept as an "act of wisdom" the generous offer of the Government to stock the streams of this State with German Carp. He contended that they were as easily raised as hogs and far more profitable to the farmers. He evidently won the ear of the Governor as an assignment of these fish were accepted later. He experimented, to some extent, with Colorado trout in the Solomon River near Beloit and the Republican River near Clay Center. He reported that these experiments were partially successful. No further experiments were conducted by Mr. Fee.

John M. Brumbaugh of Concordia, was selected by Governor Lyman Humphrey to succeed Mr. Fee as Fish Commissioner. During Mr. Brumbaugh's term of office, carp, ring perch and land locked salmon were planted in many of the Kansas streams. His experiments with salmon were unsuccessful according to a later report.
J. W. Wampler of Brazilton was appointed Fish Commissioner during the administration of Governor L. D. Lewelling. Mr. Wampler, being himself a builder, successfully urged the building of many farm ponds during his administration. He advocated, too, the culture of carp as a means of increasing the farm income.

In 1895 we find a reactionary in charge of the State's fish problems. O. E. Sadler was appointed Commissioner by Governor Morrill to succeed Commissioner Wampler. He was not a carp enthusiast and disputed the right of that fish to a place in the Kansas sun. He declared them unfit to eat and a menace to other spawning fish.

He reports to the Governor that the first sound fish law went into effect April 5, 1895. He voiced opposition to that section of the law providing for the appointment of county game wardens. A fair trial of the system, he says, has developed its inability to protect the waters or enforce the law. He suggested as a remedy the formation of county game protective associations. And that any county having a membership of 50 or more, be permitted to select one of its members as a warden allowing the one selected a reasonable compensation for his services. He complained that his wardens were receiving no compensation for their work.

Dr. J. W. Schultz, a practicing physician of Wichita, succeeded to the office during the administration of Governor Leedy. Commissioner Schultz, admittedly a free silver Republican, wrote that he was conducting the office of Fish Commissioner on a
strictly non-partisan basis, and would willingly appoint Repub-
licans, Democrats or Populists to his staff of county wardens,
providing, they had either the love of the Lord in their hearts
or believed in fish propagation and protection.

He didn't, however, agree with Mr. Fee that it would be "an
act of wisdom" to procure fish from the Federal Government. On
the contrary he accused the Government of being very stingy with
it's fish and of playing politics with them. He wrote the Gov-
ernor as follows: "To get fish from the Government, it is nec-
essary to fill out a questionnaire sent to you by the United
State Fish Commissioner. After the first blank has been return-
ed to Washington, a second one will be sent you asking for more
information and for the endorsements of the local postmaster and
sockless Jerry Simpson. The Government, after a year's delay,
will send you twenty to one hundred very small fish, making you
believe you are getting something for nothing, when in reality
they will cost you a great deal of time and worry for every min-
now you get. A few people think it a picnic to get fish from
the Government. I have known but one man to try the second time.
His christian fortitude was complete and he disappeared with the
meteor that passed over the State last month."

The good doctor, in despair reminded Governor Leedy that he
had spent eight hundred ninety one dollars and seventy-five cents
of his personal funds in conducting his office as Commissioner
and that the State Treasurer had reimbursed his pockets with
exactly nothing.
Commissioner Schultz, otherwise, had a very successful administration. He understood the science of fish culture. He had written interestingly on the art of building fish shelters and preparing fish nests. He suggested the use of hatching troughs and automatic hatching jars to increase fish production. His wardens made eighty-four arrests and secured seventy-three convictions. Fifty seines were confiscated and destroyed during the time he was Commissioner.

Our next record is a report made by Del Travis of Pratt to Governor W. J. Bailey, and covers the period from June 30, 1903 to December 1, 1904. The Fish and Game Department as we know it today had its beginning during that time. The 1903 Legislature, authorized the acquiring of land necessary for the building of a fish hatchery. Land for such a project was acquired near Pratt and the building of the hatchery was begun in 1903. The laws of 1903 established the office of State Fish Warden, later changed to State Fish and Game Warden in 1905. Mr. Travis was State Fish and Game Warden until July 1, 1909. During his term of office, approximately $15,000.00 was spent in developing the hatchery. The fish distribution car "Angler No. 1" was purchased by him at a cost of $7,000. He expended $11,000 in importing 3,000 Ringneck pheasants from England. Three hundred county game wardens were appointed during the last eighteen months of his administration. Joe Concannon, who is still connected with the Department in the capacity of game protector, was appointed by Mr. Travis. Although the present law forbids us to think of politics,
we have on studying Mr. Travis' report, concluded that he was not sinless in this matter. We find in his list of favored ones such names as W. Y. Morgan of Hutchinson, Geo. H. Hodges of Olathe, D. R. Anthony of Leavenworth, E. E. Frizell of Larned and the names of many others who are to this very day influential in Kansas politics. Mr. Travis recommended the establishment of a closed season on pheasants, Hungarian partridges, blue and mountain quail with severe penalties for violating the sanctity of these closed seasons.

Colonel Thomas Benton Murdock, a brilliant newspaper man, succeeded Mr. Travis as State Fish and Game Warden, serving in such a capacity from July 1, 1909 to November 4, 1909, the date of his death. Mr. Murdock, during this very short time managed to incur the Governor's displeasure because of extravagance. Our sympathies are with Colonel Murdock in his controversy with the Governor. We think his purchase of a fancy coffee pot was not an extravagance and that he was justified in seeking solace in the drink it brewed. The Legislature, it appears, neglected to appropriate the wherewithall necessary for the maintenance of the Department or the Colonel's salary. This bit of carelessness on the part of the Legislature resulted in the enactment of a new law and the appointment of Professor L. L. Dyche as State Fish and Game Warden. The Administration of Professor Dyche is a story in itself and shall be reported later.
The Commission softened by a touch of spring fever has given the 100,000 anglers of Kansas an unexpected break. State lakes heretofore closed to night fishing have been declared open for that purpose. If you visit the state lakes for night fishing, you should contact the caretaker of the lake and ascertain of him the latest rules and regulations. The Commission also set May 15 as the opening date for fishing in the Pottawatomie State Lake, Sheridan County State Lake, Crawford County State Lake and Rooks County State Lake.

Have you done any javelina hunting lately? If not, we recommend the state of Arizona to you. Mr. William H. Sawtelle, State Game Warden, Phoenix, Arizona, has advised the Bulletin that five Arizona counties have been opened on this animal from February 22 to March 22, inclusive. What are they? Wild hogs of course. They are vicious looking things, and believe you me it takes skill and courage to hunt them. Limit one boar and one sow.

John Q. Holmes, United States Game Management agent and Chester Yowell, Deputy United States Game Warden, were in the office recently and reported that "millions" of ducks and geese are in Kansas at this time.

Mr. Holmes reports that he has been working with the State game protectors and that they have discovered very little evidence of illegal spring shooting. If we have been accurately
analysing the reports that reach our desk, Mr. Holmes, we would say to you that Kansans seem to have more wholesome respect for the Migratory Bird Treaty Act than many of our sister states. We nevertheless, appreciate the information you have given us, and the cooperation you have given our state game protectors.

* * *

Following the example of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, we have been delving into sex matters. The statisticians of that company have stated that the population of the United States is predominately female. This knowledge is of no particular interest to the Bulletin, we have always suspected as much. Nothing can be done about it. What concerns us most is the sex ratio of the wild ducks and geese now winging their way across Kansas. To satisfy our curiosity in this regard we have assigned our own investigators and statisticians to the task of determining this ratio.

Game Protector John Shay, has reported that the waterfowl in his district is ninety percent drakes. Protector Andrew sets the drake population at eighty percent. Frank Robl, it is said, has estimated the sex ratio at sixty-two percent drakes, thirty-eight percent hens. John Q. Holmes, United States Game Management Agent who has had an opportunity to observe flights in all sections of Kansas, tells us that about seventy percent of the birds are drakes.

We quote these figures that you may be aware of the fact that the sex ratio of migratory water fowl is out of balance. Something can be done about this. If the duck hunter will forget the old urge to get the limit, and be content with drakes only, a more equitable sex ratio can be established and maintained.

* * *
FUR SALE

The Forestry, Fish and Game Commission will hold its annual sale of beaver pelts in the office of Director Josserand, Pratt, Kansas at 1:30 P. M. Monday April 1. The fur dealers have been invited to attend this sale and to make bids on the two hundred and fifty beaver pelts to be sold at that time. Director Josserand has suggested that the fur buyers convene at Pratt, 10:00 A. M. April 1, for the purpose of perfecting a Kansas fur dealer's organization.

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The Commission, we are happy to announce, has received nearly two hundred hungarian partridges, from the Canadian game farms in exchange for chukar partridges sent them several weeks ago.

Commissioner E.J. Kelly arranged this exchange on a 'bird for bird' basis. These Canadian birds, which have been banded for scientific study, will be placed only on carefully selected areas where the condition of the soil is suitable for birds of this type.

A few years ago, Kansas imported from Hungary a few hundred of these birds for transplanting in our game fields. Certain investigations since conducted by this Department have convinced us that these plantings were unwisely made. Lest we be accused of knitting our own halos and of discrediting our predecessors we want to emphasize the fact that scientific information now available to us, was denied them. The present Commission with the cooperation of agronomists are approaching the problem from a scientific viewpoint.

Birds are to be placed only in areas approved by agronomists,
as containing minerals suitable for these birds, and where sufficient cover and feed will be available to them at all times during the experimental period. We expect to receive approximately four hundred additional birds from the Canadian officials.

* * *

If you are a confirmed channel cat addict, we would suggest in making plans for your next fishing trip that you include in them a visit to the Leavenworth County State Lake, near Tonganoxie, the Woodson County State Lake near Toronto, the Ottawa County State Lake near Bennington, the Meade County State Lake near Meade, the Neosho County State Lake near St. Paul, the Scott County State Lake near Scott City or the Lyon County State Lake near Emporia. These lakes, according to reliable reports are surrendering satisfactory strings of channel cats. Dried chicken blood is the bait used by these successful anglers and seems to be preferred by the channel cats.

* * *

The Harvey County sportsmen have been conducting a campaign against the coyotes in that county. With the use of dogs they have counted the scalps of fifty-seven of these predators. Mound-ridge sportsmen killed seventeen. Halstead sportsmen also killed seventeen. The sportsmen from Sedgwick community accounted for twenty-three of these animals. The Bulletin wants to take this opportunity of congratulating the sportsmen of Harvey County for this piece of excellent work.

* * *
The sportsmen of Franklin, Reno and Sedgwick counties are discussing and considering the need for low water dams in their respective counties. Such structures are unquestionably important adjuncts to a well developed stream in improvement programs, but is a matter that has not, heretofore, been given the consideration their importance merits.

The streams of Kansas have been effected by drought, and floods for years, and yet very little has been done to elevate either extreme. The building of low water dams in all the streams that have either a rock or clay bottom is a sensible way of helping to solve the water shortage problem in the community in which they might be located, and at the same time providing ample water for fish life in the streams.

The disaster to the fish caused by the extremely low condition of the streams this fall and the extremely long heavy freeze obtaining through the winter have turned the thoughts of many fishermen to thinking of what might be done to alleviate this condition and prevent its recurrence. In Reno County the Ninnescah River and Cow Creek are streams that have the possibilities for low water dams. In Sedgwick County the little Arkansas is an ideal stream in places for such development. In Franklin County the Marias Des Cygne lends itself very readily to the building of sensible low water dams. The Ottawa Chamber of Commerce, the Ottawa Lion's Club, and the Franklin County Fish and Game Development Association are cooperating in seeing what could be worked out in this connection in Franklin County. These counties are on the right track. Worthwhile things are likely to be accomplished in this way. Some low water dams properly constructed in the right places have stood the test of the last twenty years.
Lash stumps securely together with No. 9 galv. wire. Sink in quiet water. Green hedge stumps are ideal for this purpose.

This mappole type fish shelter consists of a center pole with two rows of smaller poles arranged like umbrella ribs as shown. Each row of poles is to be covered with brush.
STATE PARK PATER

Elmo W. Huffman, Engineer

J. L. Huston, caretaker at the Butler County State Park has taken advantage of the low water in the lake this winter to construct a lot of fish shelters. We hope that the concentration during the low water has eliminated a lot of the small size fish so that the big ones will take the hooks this summer.

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Picnic season is already under way at Crawford County State Park and the attendance is on a definite upswing.

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Now is a seasonable time for amateur photographers to get "duck" pictures. The birds are thick this spring and with a little patience, you should be able to get many fine "shots."

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In spite of the heavy ice this winter, we feel that the fish in state lakes came through in fine shape. The caretakers chopped holes in the ice and they report no fish died for lack of air.

* * *

With bird nesting season near, tell all your friends to kill their own cats and not give the job to a park caretaker. They have enough work as it is and if the cat is not killed at once, it will surely start killing bird life.

* * *

Mrs. Edna Harvey of Minneapolis gave us two hundred nail kegs for catfish spawning nests on the Ottawa County State Park. Let a word to the "wise" catfish fisherman be sufficient. Make your keg contributions through your park superintendent and no doubt he will let you help him place them.
Myron Miller, a former member of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission is still active in fish and game matters in Harper County in spite of the loss of his commissioner dignity. Myron helped to organize the sportsmen's clubs of Barber and Harper Counties. He has passed the hat on several occasions around the business houses of Anthony for the wherewithal to buy feed for the upland game birds. He has arranged an oyster supper and not unlike Wimpy he compels his guests to bring their own oysters. We are very glad to have the support of our old friend and former commissioner Myron Miller.

Corporations may be heartless but the train crews of the Santa Fe, Burlington and Union Pacific Railways are sympathetic as individuals. It has been brought to the attention of the Bulletin that the train crews of these lines fed the quail along their right-of-way, during the recent heavy snows.

Game Protector Henry Byrne the Nemesis of the Nebraska fishermen is dividing his time between patrolling the border and supervising the trapping of beaver in his territory.

Matt Spriggs the caretaker of the Woodson County State Lake writes us that Ralph Eastep, a regular visitor to that lake recently caught a channel cat weighing nineteen pounds.
Wichita sportsmen who fish in Santa Fe Lake near Augusta have organized competitive fishing teams. The team having the greater number of fish to their credit for the period, are to be treated to a chicken dinner by their less fortunate opponents.

Koon C. Beck, former special investigator for this Department, has been seriously ill in a Hutchinson hospital. We are all very sorry to hear of Koon's misfortune and hope sincerely that his period of convalescence is short and certain.

Game Protector Joe Faulkner reports that a lad in Gove County has started life in an earnest and orthodox manner. He is the possessor of a license issued by the county clerk of that county. The personal description on the license reveals the lad to be five years old, weighs fifty-four pounds and that he has attained a stature of three feet six inches.

H. W. Wood of Beverly, according to the Salina Journal, has killed thirty-eight coyotes this winter averaging thirty-eight pounds each.

Ashland sportsmen report a fine flock of prairie chickens in Clark County. They are of the opinion that many of them came to us from Oklahoma.

Hamilton County Sportsmen advise us that many blue quail have been observed in that county and that they are in fine condition.
Oklahoma, an otherwise friendly neighbor, is enlarging its Durant fish hatchery to what it is pleased to call the world's largest. Even though this honor is lost to us, we are glad to learn of Oklahoma's extension program. If we can't have the "world's largest" we can take consolation in the thought that the builder of the "newest world's largest" cut his teeth at our hatchery.

California and Idaho are having beaver problems too, according to advice from the Department of the Interior. These states are studying the problem of beaver control. They propose to remove the animals from the agricultural areas to the less populated mountain districts.

Construction work at the Meade County Pheasant Farm is progressing satisfactorily. New breeding stock which had been ordered from the Northern game farms, has been received at the Meade County Farm.

The new Federal Bass Hatchery, near the site of the Crawford County State Park No. 2, is beginning to take shape. The superintendent's residence, garage and office buildings have been built. The machinery is at the site for the making of the ponds, and the project will be completed this year.
Believe it or not - Bark off trunks and limbs of trees as high as ten feet have been eaten by rabbits in the Lyon County State Park, according to G. C. Thompson of Emporia. Snow had drifted around the trunks of trees from five to ten feet which gave the rabbits an opportunity to reach the high branches, and as the drifts melted, continued to eat the bark destroying many trees.

Tommy Welch, six year old son of Dr. E. E. Welch of Topeka, is the youngest license holder in the State. Lee Larrabee, Chairman of the Commission after hearing that Tommy was learning to cast in Lake Shawnee, believed such an ardent young sportsman should have a license, and purchased one for him.

Twelve wild pintail ducks, tagged with gold-plated number bands, were shipped by airline to Washington from San Francisco, March 8 and were released by Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior and Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey. These birds, the first migratory waterfowl known to have flown across the continent by power, other than their own, were released near the Washington airport. This is also the first time that wildfowl have been removed from one flyway and released in another.

The releasing of these birds will be a part of the observ-
ance of National Wildlife Restoration Week as well as by naturalists of the Biological Survey. It will give the naturalists an opportunity to study the migratory reaction of wildfowl when they are liberated 3,000 miles away from their usual lanes of flight. Migration studies usually indicate that such birds usually spend their lives in which ever one of the four major American flyways they are raised. The normal flyways used by migratory birds are the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central and the Pacific.

What the hitch-hiking ducks will do when they are liberated is anybody's guess. Some observers believe that the birds will start directly back to the Pacific Coast under their own power. Others believe they will follow other migratory waterfowl in the Atlantic flyway, which is the lane used in the Washington area. Some hold that the ducks will take off for all four flyways, or anywhere away from their captors. The individual who finds one of the birds reports the band number, date and place of finding to the Biological Survey, and the finders may keep the gold-plated bands.

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The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce has inaugurated a new committee which is called the Game Conservation Committee and considerable interest has been shown in this subject. Once each month, the Chamber of Commerce meeting is attended by members of the Chamber as well as by members of the four civic clubs - Rotary, Kiwanis, Cooperative and Lions. One of these monthly meet-
ings will be devoted to game conservation. As far as the writer is able to ascertain, this is the first senior Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a game conservation division. If other chambers of commerce in the State would emulate Manhattan, the results in game conservation would be very effective and far reaching, not only in the preservation and restoration of our wildlife but good sportsmanship as well.

* * *

Ed Gebhard of Liberal is credited with making the first mail order arrest by a state game protector. The defendant, H. R. Glick, a resident of Barton County, was arrested for hunting quail out of season in Finney County, but decided not to plead guilty and hired an attorney. After considerable correspondence between his attorney and Protector Gebhard, the defendant decided to plead guilty. The plea was made before a justice of the peace in Barton County where a fine and court costs were imposed. After recommendations by Gebhard were made to the local justice, So well did Ed handle the case that he was highly complimented by the defendant's attorney, who also stated that the violator was now a respecter of the law and that the fish and game department had gained prestige in that community.

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The Department's new film-on-sound, in color, titled "Kansas Outdoors" has arrived and is shown to approximately one thousand persons daily through the school week.

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Lawrence Davis, Wellington. Illegal possession of a gig and attempting to take fish through the ice. Protector Toland and County Protector J. L. Crum. Fine $15.50.

Elmer Smart, Peck. Illegal possession of a gig and attempting to take fish through the ice. Protector Toland and County Protector J. L. Crum. Fine $15.50.


John Scott, Wellington. Illegal possession of a gig and attempting to take fish through the ice. Protector Toland and County Protector J. L. Crum. Fine $15.50.

Ivan Scott, Wichita. Illegal possession of a gig and attempting to take fish through the ice. Protector Toland and County Protector J. L. Crum. Fine $15.50.

F. J. Rosiska, Miltonvale. Buying fur at a place other than the one described on license. Protector Byrne. Fine $12.50.


Paul and F. J. Pace, Wichita. Illegal possession of fish. County Game Protector Fay Snyder. Fine $5.00.


Wildlife Note For U. S. Youth

The following was written by Will J. Tucker, executive secretary of the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, for a publication by the North Carolina Game Department which was intended for children of school age.

When next you thank God for making you American, think what is yours because of this blessing. Think especially of that wonderful gift, the great American outdoors with its treasure of wildlife.

Because He gave man dominion over every moving creature, because by our laws all wildlife belongs to the people of each united State, you are part owner of the living wealth of our fields and streams. Yours are the rights and obligations that go with that ownership.

The soul nourishment of a lackadaisical walk through the woods, the beauty of birdlife, the thrill-studded relaxation of a day of fishing, the blood-tingling excitement of a hunt for game—all these are yours by right. But your opportunities to enjoy them are less than your father had. His were less than your grandfather's.

Why?

Because too many Americans of each generation from pioneer times to the present have forgotten an appurtenance of ownership that must be co-existent with the rights of ownership—the duty to preserve the thing owned.

It is futile to reproach in retrospect our forefathers for needlessly slaughtering so much wildlife and for causing still more to perish by destroying habitats and food sources. However, the past can show us what will follow if we neglect wildlife conservation.

May I suggest to you a personal program of conservation:

Create in yourself a real love for the out-of-doors. Learn by experience the pleasures of hiking, hunting and fishing. Read some of the better stories about American fields and streams.

Learn something of the work your government—national, state, and local—is doing to preserve wildlife. Find what you can do to help make this work effective.

Know and observe the hunting and fishing regulations of your state and the Federal government.

Remember others will follow you in the woods; observe the Golden Rule; be a good sport.
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Butler County State Park.
Crawford County State Park.
Finney County State Park.
Lyon County State Park.
Leavenworth County State Park.
Meade County State Park.
Neosho County State Park.
Nemaha County State Park.
Ottawa County State Park.
Republic County State Park.
Sheridan County State Park.
Scott County State Park.
Woodson County State Park.