

KANSAS

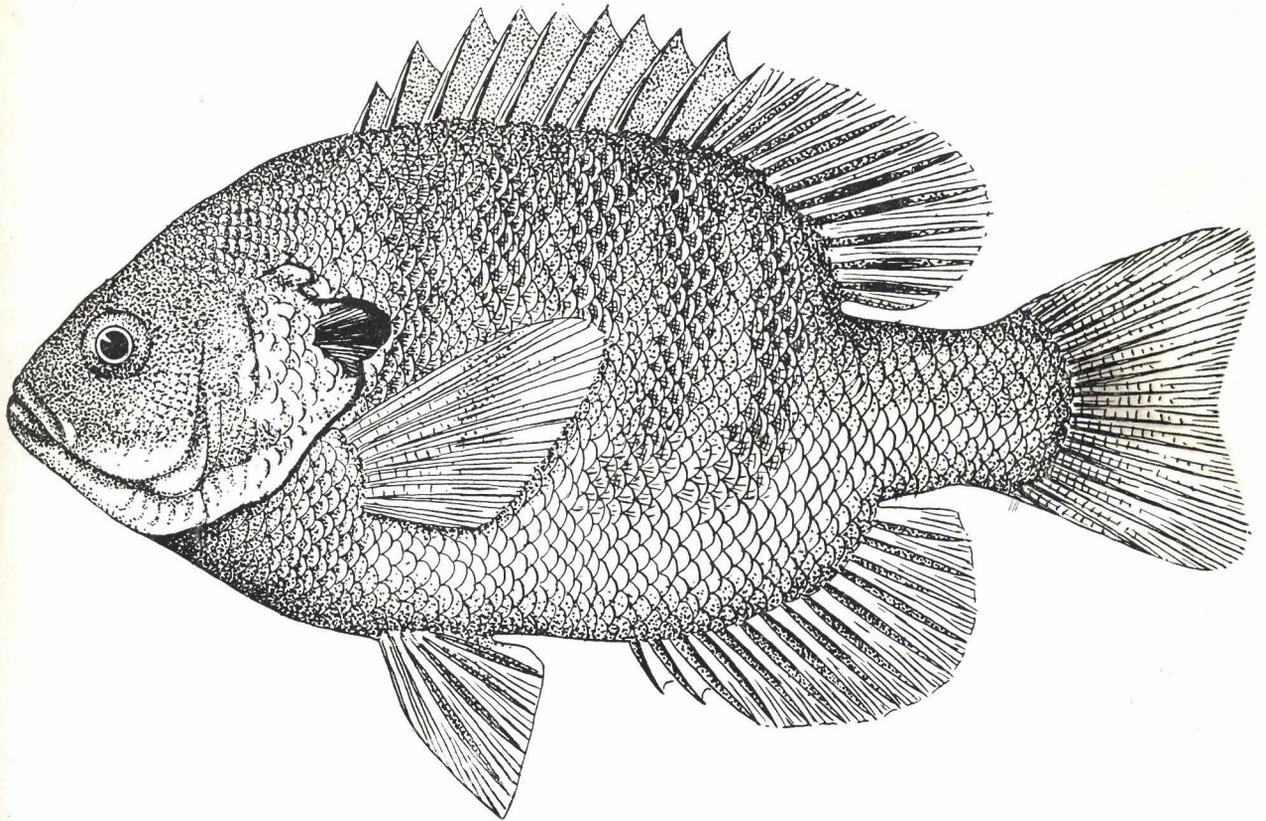


FISH AND GAME

VOL. IV

MARCH, 1942

No. III



Bluegill (*Lepomis pallidus*)

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KANSAS FISH AND GAME

Published Monthly By

THE KANSAS FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Pratt, Kansas

GUY D. JOSSERAND, *Director*
DAVE LEAHY, JR., *Asst. Director*

GARLAND ATKINS, *Secretary*

LEE LARRABEE, *Chairman*

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Shells and Guns to be Rationed

At this writing we find ourselves in agreement with General Sherman's estimate of war. After observing the northward movement of ducks, we are moved to predict that the fall flight southward will be much larger than the flights of former years. The opportunity of the hunter to take these birds, however, will be reduced greatly because of national defense, priorities and rationing regulations.

On February 23, the government placed a "freezing" order on guns, including the hunters' favorite 12-gauge shotgun. The same order restricted, or limited, the sale of shotgun shells. Under the new regulation sporting goods dealers are limited to seventy percent of the shells delivered to them in 1940. According to one of the largest sporting goods dealers of Wichita, this will be about fifty percent of the shells allotted to them in 1941. This particular dealer, during 1941, handled four carloads of shells, but under the present rationing plan he will be limited to two cars of shells during 1942.

Many sportsmen, particularly those who remember the hunters plight during the last world war, have laid in a supply of shells for the 1942 season. We suggest that the readers of KANSAS FISH AND GAME buy their shells early and have their guns well oiled for anything that comes—be it ducks or be it Japs.

Trespassing

Anglers are beginning to ask questions. That, to us, is the one infallible sign of approaching spring and the fishing season. The one question most frequently directed to us asks for a clarification of the angler's rights along the many so-called public streams of Kansas.

We boast but three such streams. The Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri rivers for all intents and purposes are considered to be navigable and public despite the fact that during most of the year they flow less than a bootfull of water. Anglers have a right to fish these three streams without obtaining permission from the individual landowners once they have gained access to the streams. It should be remembered, however, that a landowner can prohibit crossing his land to reach these streams. If you do that against his will, you are subject to a charge of trespassing.

Insofar as the other streams of Kansas are concerned, the angler is without a single right. The landowners along such streams have the exclusive right to the waters flowing past their properties. If they forbid you to fish therein they are only exercising one of those rights. The fact that you entered the stream at a public highway or by the permission of another landowner does not give you the right to fish in the water where you have not gained permission to do so.

On our own fishing trips we have found the farmers to be more than generous in granting us the use of their streams. We asked permission before attempting to fish. The landowner will meet you more than half way if you show the proper spirit and attitude toward his rights.

The salmon canning industry is confined to the Great Circle of the North Pacific Coastal area stretching from Oregon to Northern Japan.

IT IS UNLAWFUL—

To take bass or crappie from April 20 to May 25, or channel cats from June 1 to June 30, all dates inclusive.

To transport or remove minnows or small species of fish from the state.

To take from any state lake during one calendar day more than fifteen fish of all kinds.

To take from any Kansas waters, bass (except rock bass) less than ten inches; catfish (except bullheads) less than twelve inches; yellow perch less than six inches.

To take from Kansas streams and lakes (except state lakes) more than fifteen game fish in any one day or have in possession more than thirty such fish.

To use, operate or have set at any time more than two rods and lines, or to have more than two hooks on any line other than a trotline, or to use, operate or have set more than one trotline, or six limb or bank lines containing not more than two hooks each, or to use, operate or have set any trotline having attached to it more than twenty-five (25) hooks, or to set, to have set, or have in operation at any one time more than twenty-seven (27) hooks, or to set or have set any trotline or throw line within three hundred yards of any dam or within two hundred yards of the mouth of any creek or river, or for any person other than the legal holder of a Kansas fishing license to operate, set or have set any trotline or throw line at any place or under any circumstances.

Gilbert Francis Heads Douglas County Sportmen's Club

Members of the Douglas County Sportsmen's Club met Tuesday evening for the annual election of officers. Gilbert Francis is the new president; Phil Ernest, Jr., vice-president; Fred W. Kahn, secretary; Pat Callahan, treasurer; Carl Rutter, chairman of the board of directors, George Melvin and Conrad McGrew, members.

Members voted to open Horseshoe Lake March 1. Limit of fish, size and the hours for fishing will be same as state lake regulations. All persons fishing in the lake will be required to hold a state fishing license and a club membership card.

Due to war conditions, the club will not hold its annual turkey dinner this year.

The Mr. Chairman Applauded

"Great oaks from little acorns grow" . . . Lee Larrabee had an idea back in the fall of 1924. He got that idea over to Burt Doze, then state game warden for Kansas, now of the *Wichita Eagle*. Mr. Doze presented the idea to a sportsman's organization at a meeting at Minneapolis, Kan. The idea spread rapidly. As a result it was decided to do something about it. So when the state legislature met in January, 1925, Mr. Doze, and George A. Clark, of Topeka, who became greatly interested, sent for Mr. Larrabee to come to Topeka and assist in drafting a law which would put the idea over. They studied it carefully from all angles.

The result was the law creating a State Fish and Game Commission for Kansas, which should use a portion of the money which the sportsmen pay into the state for hunting and fishing licenses, to provide recreation sites for these sportsmen, their families and hundreds of thousands of other persons.

The consequence is that Kansas now has twenty-four state properties, adequately improved, that thousands and thousands of people may enjoy throughout the year.

Mr. Larrabee's idea, which was the acorn from which the big oak grew, was that the money which sportsmen pay into the state should be used for improving of recreation sites. When Burt Doze visited him in the fall of 1924, he took him down to what was then the Beaver Gun Club, where some cottages had been built, and fishing facilities provided. He thoroughly convinced Mr. Doze of the possibilities of developing such areas throughout the state of Kansas, where they'd be available to everyone, and Mr. Doze worked tirelessly to get the movement started.

After Mr. Larrabee had spent some time in Topeka—at his own expense—assisting in working out plans

for the law which was passed creating the State Fish and Game Commission, he came back home and thought no more about it. Then came a letter from Gov. Ben Paulen informing him that he was being appointed a member of the first commission created under the new law. Mr. Larrabee promptly sat down and wrote a letter, turning down the appointment.

But friends over the state, knowing his ability along this line and realizing of what service he could be to Kansas, began bringing such pressure to bear that at last he reconsidered and became a member of that first commission. Geo. A. Clark, of Topeka, was the appointee for the eastern third of Kansas, Giles Atherton, El Dorado, for the central third, and Mr. Larrabee for the western third.

Since that time Mr. Larrabee has served for over thirteen years as a member of the commission, being on the board for some period of time under every governor of Kansas since.

After Payne Ratner, an ardent sportsman, was elected governor, he called a representative group of sportsmen together and asked them to draft a bill to present to the legislature, tending to remove the fish and game department from partisan politics. The result was the creation of a six-member board, composed of three Democrats and three Republicans, one from each highway district of the state. Mr. Larrabee is now serving as chairman of this board.

The first state park was established in Neosho county in 1926. Since that time the number of properties has grown to twenty-four, and each has been improved from year to year.

"Yes, great oaks from little acorns grow." Because Lee Larrabee had an idea, and knew how to put it across, hundreds of thousands of people have had pleasures which would not have otherwise been possible, and these pleasures will continue for future generations.—*Kansas Times*.

For Better Fishing

Seth L. Way, state fish culturist, having begun the task of improving the several state lakes, assures the editor that his efforts will result in bigger and better fish life. At the present time the Ottawa and Meade County State Lakes are receiving his attention. A preliminary survey of the fish life at the Meade County State Lake shows that there are approximately 300,000 fish ranging from 2½ inches to 8 inches in length in that body of water. This lake, according to Mr. Way, is not large enough to sustain that much fish life, and many thousands of the fish will be transferred to other waters and the lake restocked with larger fish. Work will be completed at this point in plenty of time for the spring rush of anglers.

Kill Less

From a sportsman's club comes a request for plans whereby that club could, as a general club project, improve the fishing possibilities of their nearby streams.

Stream improvement is indeed a commendable project. But because an undertaking of this kind involves so much work and scientific effort, we would hesitate to recommend such a project to busy sportsmen's clubs.

Fish, like game, can be managed to produce more of its kind in sufficient numbers to satisfy the immediate needs of the sportsmen if they will give but a little of their time and effort. As a matter of fact, very little of either is required. We would suggest to the inquiring, and any other sportsmen's organizations, that they impose upon themselves a reduced bag or creel limit.

The laws of Kansas are far too generous in respect to the number of fish that can be taken legally from our public streams. For example, under the present law fifteen channel cats may be taken in one day. If your daily catch of such fish is of the maximum number and minimum length of twelve inches, you will have captured about eight pounds of meat. The average family when fish hungry, according to local statistics, will purchase less than two pounds of fish to satisfy that hunger. Few Kansas anglers, thank goodness, are meat fishermen. Most of the licensees pursue the art of angling as a matter of sport. We would suggest, too, that the sportsmen purge themselves of the recently developed competitive spirit. Far too many anglers start out on their fishing trips determined to hook their legal limits, knowing full well that the fish so taken will not be used by them as an item of food. The sport of angling lies in the catching of fish and not in the eating of them. Take only a limited number of the fish you catch and return the unneeded fish to the water. In our opinion the theory that a hooked fish is a dead fish, is just so much hog wash, especially if care is exercised in removing the fish from the hook and returning to the water.

Our advice to any sportsmen's club wishing to improve the fishing condition of the local streams would be for them to kill less fish than they catch.

Limits Off

Because of a recent ruling of the Fish and Game Commission, the taking of blue gill and crappie from now on, insofar as size is concerned, will be a matter of individual conscience. The Commission, due to the fact that many lakes are over stocked with these fish, repealed a former regulation which provided that crappie under seven inches and blue gill under six inches could not be taken legally. The Commission

also amended one of its park rules, hiking from ten to fifteen the number of fish that can be taken in one day from any state lake.

Dynamiter Blasted

District game protector Hepperly, doubting the motives of anyone possessing twelve sticks of No. 40 dynamite, ten dynamite caps and eight feet of dynamite fuse, set himself to the task of finding out just what use a resident of Lyon county would make of such material.

This Lyon county resident was not a fifth columnist, as Hepperly suspected, but was using these explosives to sabotage the fish life of Lyon county streams. To such charge a plea of guilty was entered and a fine exceeding \$100 was assessed by the court.

Night Fishing for War Nerves

The Commission, mindful of the recreational needs of our defense workers and of the war-wearied civilian population, has again opened its state lakes to all night fishing, and has increased the daily creel limit from ten to fifteen fish of all kinds.

The Commission is very anxious that a wide use be made of the state lakes, and recommends to you that lake nearest your shop or home. A glance at the outline map displayed on the outside cover of this publication will reveal the location of these lakes to you.

Company Has 18,000 Rabbit Skins

So you think there are a lot of rabbits in McPherson county.

Well, you're right, but there's a lot less live rabbits here than there were at the first of December last year. A total of 18,000 bunnies, jack rabbits and cottontails, have been bought by the Sunflower Packing Company since the last week in December, and the firm is still buying them.

The rabbits are skinned and the fur is used in making felt hats. The meat is frozen and shipped to New York, where the Easterners receive it in chili con carne (the rabbits are in the carne) in hamburger, meat loaf, almost anything. The meat must pass a strict inspection by the board of health before it can be shipped.

Lawrence Gates, manager of Sunflower, said that the firm would continue to buy rabbits until about the middle of February, paying ten cents apiece for jacks and three cents each for the cots.

All the 18,000 rabbits were killed in McPherson county, but there are still plenty more where those came from.—*McPherson Republican*.

SHORTS

Our efforts to have conservation taught to Kansas school children has been successful, but not in the manner intended.

District game protector Jones, reports that he recently found one school teacher and a number of pupils attempting to take ducks out of season. This misguided pedagogue freely admitted that he and his pupils were hunting ducks, and would have taken them but they could not get within shooting range. Protector Jones has not made a report on the final disposition of this case.

Men have been hanged, drawn and quartered for doing less. It is to be hoped that the school board is now taking applications for a vacated teaching job. KANSAS FISH AND GAME will gladly supply that school board with a list of unemployed teachers who are known to have a greater respect for the laws of Kansas and to their responsibilities in moulding good, strong, young characters.

It is the early worm that catches the fish, paraphrases Matt Sprigg in telling us of the fishing conditions at the Woodson County State Lake near Yates Center. He reports that fishing has been exceptionally good there this spring. Bass and crappie being particularly active around the business end of the anglers' lines.

Duane Carpenter, superintendent of Butler County State Lake, near Augusta, makes a similar report in regard to his lake.

Donald Nelson, director of the O. P. M. is not the first public official to experience difficulties along the production line. Solon, the ancient Athenian lawgiver, had experienced similar troubles back in 594 B. C. He decided that the Athenians were spending too much of their time in hunting and giving little time to the arts. He put them in the groove by decreeing a game law which entirely prohibited the pursuing of game by the fun-loving Athenians.

District game protector Byrne reports that because of floods in the Republican river valley, that fewer beaver have been noted in that area this year. Byrne is of the opinion that the animals have not been destroyed but have moved to areas considered less dangerous to them and their welfare.

He reports further, that he has noted a scarcity of rabbits throughout his district.

District game protector Gebhardt writes that our one man, unsupported, campaign to give rabbits a measure of legal protection has gained an enthusiastic and worthy champion. One of the fur dealers operating in his district, and who handles approximately 10,000 rabbit pelts a year, now joins us in urging the enactment of sane controlling laws.

Speaking of rabbits, we learn from a Scott City newspaper, that the annual high school play of that city, was threatened with postponement, all for the want of a rabbit. After two days of feverish hunting, by the faculty, school children and citizens of that community, a rabbit was at last captured and the show went on.

The Commission fully intends to enforce its regulations regarding the size limit of fish. The angler's tackle box, therefore, should include a rule for measuring questionable fish. In the absence of a rule, we suggest, that you use your fishing license as a measuring guide. This license is 3½ inches wide and 5¼ inches long. In measuring a fish the tip of the chin and the end of the caudal or tail fin may be included in the calculations.

Less Than 1,000 Great White Herons Left; All in Florida

Probably not more than 800 great white herons are left in the world today, a recent report of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, reveals. All of them are in southern Florida, where the Service maintains the Great White Heron and Key West Refuges near here for this species.

Three Service employees recently made an aerial count of the rare Florida bird by flying over the refuges and along the mainland in a Coast Guard plane.

The count was made by Refuge Manager Earle R. Greene, Game Management Agent J. V. Kelsey, and Flyway Biologist Harold S. Peters.

During the plane flight, the three experts actually counted 551 great white herons. Since some birds probably were not seen, the federal men believe that between 700 and 800 would be an accurate estimate of the bird's numbers.

On the Key West National Wildlife Refuge, a 1,200-acre area established in 1908, seventy-eight great white herons were counted. The area also has brown pelicans, gulls, and other species of wildlife. The Great White Heron Refuge had 290 of these birds. Established in 1938, the refuge comprises 1,000 acres set aside for the protection of the herons and Key deer.

Wildlife Treaty Saves North American Ducks and Geese

The migratory bird treaty between the United States and Great Britain had its 25th "birthday" Monday, December 8. Signed by the two nations to protect migratory waterfowl and other forms of wildlife going back and forth between Canada and the United States, the treaty was proclaimed by President Wilson on December 8, 1916.

"It is no exaggeration to call this treaty the most significant advance in the history of wildlife conservation in North America," Secretary of the Interior Ickes said.

In 1937, a similar treaty between Mexico and the United States was consummated to protect migratory birds and game mammals going back and forth between these two countries.

"Discharging our federal obligations under these international agreements has made possible one of the most successful wildlife conservation programs in history," Secretary Ickes added. "Not only does the Department of the Interior carefully regulate the hunting of the species affected, but it also maintains a nationwide system of refuges to protect and encourage the migratory birds. The resulting increase in birds is today the best possible evidence of the importance of this international coöperation."

FORTY-EIGHT STATES REGULATED KILL

Before the federal government by this treaty became responsible for conserving migratory birds, the seasons were set by each of the forty-eight states. Federal officials recall that songbirds, as well as ducks and geese, were sold in many sections of the country, while the hunting of wild ducks and geese during the nesting season was not uncommon.

Lax regulations and excessive hunting contributed to the decline in North America's migratory waterfowl population, which fell to an all-time low of less than 30,000,000 in 1934. Since then, the population has come back to between 70 and 75 million.

Conservationists throughout the country agree that drastic reductions in bag limits, regulation of lengths of seasons in the three hunting zones of the country, and establishment of wildlife refuges in strategic waterfowl areas played an important part in the comeback of the wildfowl. All these measures were based on this treaty.

"The terms of the treaty have been upheld in a most satisfactory manner by both Canadian and American officials," it was stated by W. C. Henderson, assistant director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, which administers the migratory bird act, making the treaty effective.

CHALLENGE TREATY

Negotiations of the treaty had been preceded by the passage of the Weeks-McLean bill in congress in 1913. This bill authorized the federal government to regulate the taking and selling of migratory game birds.

Many sportsmen frowned on the Weeks-McLean bill, declaring it unconstitutional. A test case came up when Col. Joseph Acklen, a Tennessean who served as the first chief federal game warden, without pay, persuaded Harvey C. Shauver, of Jonesport, Ark., to plead not guilty to taking coots out of season. Mr. Shauver, who readily admitted the violation unofficially, agreed to make the test case.

The case was tried before Federal Judge Jacob Trieber, who found the law unconstitutional. Appealed to the supreme court of the United States, the case was argued once, but no decision was made by the court. The case was later scheduled for reargument.

Before a second hearing was held, however, the United States and Great Britain signed the migratory bird treaty, and a supreme court decision on the earlier law was never made. Ratified by the two countries, the treaty was proclaimed by President Wilson on December 8, 1916.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS TREATY

As soon as congress passed an enabling act authorizing the Biological Survey (now a part of the Fish and Wildlife Service) to enforce the provisions of the treaty, the federal government's right to regulate the taking of wild birds was challenged again.

Final decision in the federal-state controversy was made in the famous test case, *Missouri v. Holland*, in which the supreme court declared the treaty to be constitutional. The court's decision was read by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.

"Here a national interest of very nearly the first magnitude is involved," stated Justice Holmes. "It can be protected only by national action in concert with that of another power. The subject matter is only transitorily within the state and has no permanent habitation therein. But for the treaty and the statute, there soon might be no birds for any powers to deal with."

Since the supreme court decision upholding the treaty, sportsmen and conservationists have coöperated in the federal government's efforts to administer the nation's wildlife resources.

Regulations on hunting migratory waterfowl are recommended by Fish and Wildlife Service officials after a year-round survey of conditions on the nesting, the resting and feeding, and the wintering grounds of the migratory birds of North America.

Snakes

Here is reprinted an article on Natural History, written by W. J. Breckenridge, Curator, Minnesota Museum of Natural History, as taken from the Minnesota Conservation Volunteer. This article by Mr. Breckenridge explodes many of the myths that we have heard and believed about snakes.

"Since time immemorial man has amused himself by building up fantastic tales about various wild beasts, sea monsters, unicorns, rocs, and gargoyles. Many of the less impossible of these creatures are today woven in with facts so intimately as to be hard to sort out, especially since some people seem loath to give them up.

"There are few animals about which people are more eager and willing to believe the preposterous than those in herpetology, the study which deals with the snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs and toads, and salamanders. If we search ancient writings and listen to barbershop naturalists we will find the study much more filled with thrills and shivers than if we restrict ourselves to facts.

"From the above sources we might learn about the hoop snake, that reptilian terror that grasps its tail in its mouth and rolls hoop-fashion at alarming speeds to overtake its prey—usually a man, of course. Then suddenly releasing the tail it hurtles through the air like a javelin with that poisonous, spine-tipped tail impaling its quarry. The best defense against this creature, we are told, is to step quickly behind a tree just as it strikes, thus causing it to pin itself to the tree. And as for the tree, the virulent poison soon causes it to wither and die.

"And while on the subject of virulent poisons, in Charles Owens' 'An Essay Toward a Natural History of Serpents,' printed in 1742, an account is given of a young woman being wounded by a rattlesnake, and died on the spot, before any relief could be had; and when they came to take up the corpse, the flesh came off her bones; so speedily did the violence of the poison dissolve the structure of the body.

"Toads are widely believed to produce warts on the skin of those who handle them. There seems to be no basis in fact for this belief, and the warty nature of the skin of the toad probably gave rise to this notion. The skin does, however, contain a mild poison that renders this otherwise defenseless animal distasteful to most of its natural enemies.

"The 'hoop snake' seems to exist only in the minds of those whose imaginations are stimulated by an uncontrollable fear of snakes. A few snakes have fairly sharp, horny-tipped tails, but none is known to use it as a weapon and none is known to contain poison in any form.

MILK SNAKE TALES

"The milk snake is so named because of a belief

that it sucks milk from the udders of cows. The writer has talked with individuals who claim to have seen this take place, one person telling of a rattle-snake that developed the habit. These eye-witness tales are invariably 'recollections' from years back. Such tale bearers disregard the fact that snakes' mouths contain rows of tiny, very sharp, recurved teeth that would be anything but soothing to the cows' teats and also that the lips and muscles of a snake's mouth are not at all adapted to sucking movements. Even if these facts are overlooked, the amount of milk that even a large individual could consume would hardly be missed at milking time. Clifford Pope points out that the total body volume of a thirty-inch milk snake is actually less than half a pint. The milk snake, and several other harmless snakes, do often occur about farms, but their presence there is due to their liking for mice and rats and not for milk.

WATER SNAKE HARMLESS

"The water snake in Minnesota is the poisonous 'water moccasin' to many people. This is not true. The snake commonly found in streams and about water in Minnesota is the common water snake, which, although it often exhibits a rather vicious disposition, is entirely without poison fangs. The water moccasin proper is not known to occur north of southern Illinois.

"The darting tongue of snakes is feared by many people. This belief has no basis in fact. Even the rattlesnake's tongue is soft and harmless. The tongue is an exploring organ connected with the sense of smell and taste and not an injector of venoms. This task is performed by the fangs or specially adapted teeth.

TWO POISONOUS SNAKES

"Snakes, lizards, and salamanders, including the mud puppy, are widely considered to be poisonous. No North American salamander is poisonous, and only one lizard, the gila monster of the southwest, possesses poison glands. In Minnesota only two of our fifteen species of snakes are poisonous, the timber rattlesnake, and the small, very rare swamp rattler or massasauga. The timber rattler seems to be restricted in its range in Minnesota to the Mississippi river bluffs and those of its larger tributaries from the mouth of the St. Croix southward. This statement is based on our present authentic records, and is made somewhat in the spirit of a challenge, since it may occur rarely in a very few other spots in the state. Actual specimens must be had, however, to establish its occurrence, since so many errors are made in reporting rattlesnakes. Only two authentic records of the swamp rattlesnake in Minnesota are at hand. It may be expected to occur in the Mississippi bottoms from about Red Wing southward. Except for the rugged southeastern corner of Minnesota, then, there is almost no danger of one encountering poisonous reptiles in this state.

GLASS SNAKE STORY

"Everyone has probably heard of the glass snake which is reported to have the ability to break off its tail in times of danger and return to reattach it later. In the first place, the glass snake is really a legless lizard. Its tail does break off easily with but little bleeding, but it cannot reclaim the fragments. It has the remarkable ability, however, of regenerating a new tail. The severed tail squirms and twists actively for some time after being broken and serves as a lure to occupy the attention of enemies while the body escapes. The whole group of lizards has this ability, and although snakes' tails are often broken off they are never regenerated.

THE PUFFING ADDER

"The snake that has more tales built up about it than any other local species except perhaps the rattlesnake, is that short, stocky, sandloving snake variously known as the blow snake, blowing adder, puffing adder, spreading adder, or hog-nosed snake. It is widely acclaimed as being able to spit poison or even fire, and is almost unanimously considered very poisonous. As a matter of fact, it is one of the best bluffers in the animal world, perhaps even excelling the opossum itself in this art. The truth is it is not poisonous and, after its display of anger when first encountered has subsided, it is an exceedingly docile species.

"When found in the field this snake attempts to bluff an enemy with one of the most convincing of terror-inspiring displays one could imagine. It draws its stout body together in sinuous coils, spreads out its head, neck, and the forepart of its body to two or three times its normal width, draws the head back and warns *the intruder with a loud hiss that could very well be mistaken for a rattle*. If the enemy approaches still nearer it strikes out vigorously and repeatedly in its direction. This display may effectively repel most of its natural enemies, but the less timid of its human enemies immediately lay onto the snake with the nearest available rod. Even at this point, however, the snake's bag of tricks is not empty. At the first blow the serpent quivers in convulsive muscular contractions, stiffens out, opens its mouth wide in a perfectly genuine death gasp and twists over onto its back to remain still as death. The uninitiated attacker, thinking he has dispatched the reptile, puts his stick under a loop of its stiffened body and throws it off into the weeds. A few minutes later, however, this same tormentor would be very much surprised to find his 'carcass' stealthily crawling out of the weed patch to go on about his hunting of frogs and toads. The one weak spot in this serpent's otherwise perfect act of 'playing 'possum' is that it seems convinced that a dead snake should lie on its back, and should it be turned onto its belly, as in life, it immediately turns over again into its ortho-

dox 'dead' position, thus destroying, or at least seriously damaging its illusion of death.

DOUBTFUL REPORTS

"The tale about young snakes seeking shelter in the mouth of their mother is one snake story that still seems not to have been thoroughly disproved. No records of this have been observed in any of the large zoos where hundreds of families of snakes have been kept under close observation and no recognized herpetologist has reported this as a fact. Many snakes give birth to living young, and gravid females of this species, when killed and opened just prior to giving birth to their young, would serve as proof of this story to many uncritical observers. Also many snakes are known to eat other snakes, and this could easily be misinterpreted as young seeking shelter in the mother's mouth. In spite of all this negative evidence, however, there exist many eye-witness accounts of this strange happening. One in particular, written by Dr. E. D. Ball, a well-known entomologist, is quite convincing in its accuracy of detail. So it seems that this story is one that still must be viewed with an open mind by the skeptics, since there is a possibility that it might rarely occur.

"The collector of such tales might go on reciting accounts of the remarkable behavior of these despised animals. Many will even stoutly 'stand by their guns' regarding the authenticity of their stories when it is suggested that a tricky memory plus and active imagination is responsible for numerous accounts. A great many of these myths continue to be retold as facts in the fantastic 'nature lore' of that large group who lack to such a marked degree that first great quality of a fact finder, skepticism."

The geoduck is the largest edible clam on the west coast of the United States. Individuals weighing 5 or 6 pounds are common and there are authentic records up to 12 pounds.

The oyster industry forms the United States' third most valuable fishery in point of income to the fisherman, and the first from the standpoint of employment in the fisheries.

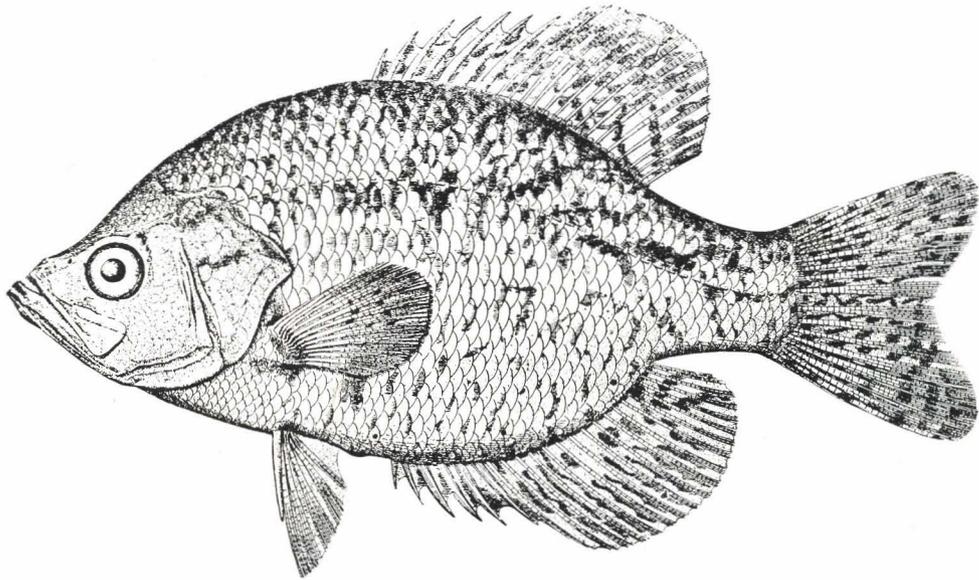
The rare giant squids of the North Atlantic reach a great size, with a length of body and head of some 20 feet, a length of the slender tentacular arms of 35 feet, and with 8 powerful sessile arms of some 6 feet in length.

The prong-horned antelope is not a true antelope. Unlike the true antelope, the prong-horn has branched horns and sheds the horn sheath.

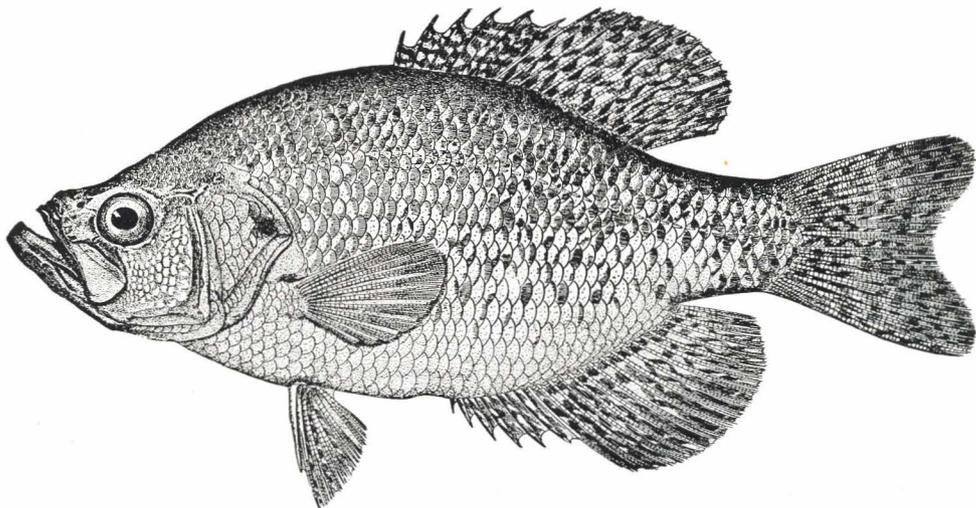
FEBRUARY ARRESTS

DEFENDANT	CHARGE	PROTECTOR	DISPOSITION
Monte Cook, Stonington, Colorado.....	Misrepresentation as to residence for purpose of obtaining license as a resident of Kansas	Gebhard	Convicted
Henry Homolka, Munden.....	Sale of fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
Francis Odgers, Munden.....	Sale of fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
Lud Homolka, Munden.....	Possession and transportation of fur without trapping license	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
Sam Stone, Wichita.....	Selling furs without trapping license.....	Toland	Convicted
Warren E. Fought, Dellvale.....	Shipping fur without trapping license.....	Faulkner, Jones, Byrne....	Convicted
Le Roy Hawkinson, Galva.....	Selling furs without trapping license.....	Carlson and Suenram.....	Convicted
W. M. Wynn, Geneseo.....	Selling and shipping furs without trapping license	Suenram and Carlson.....	Convicted
Harold Scheibe, Waterville.....	Selling fur without having trapping license....	Toburen	Convicted
Ed Meyers, Herkimer.....	Selling fur without having a trapping license..	Toburen	Convicted
H. F. Gazaway, Newton.....	(1) Hunting game birds out of season; (2) possession of game birds in closed esason....	Suenram	Convicted
Harold Bengston, Newton.....	Hunting without license.....	Suenram	Convicted
Frank Ryser, Washington.....	Selling fur without having trapping license....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
Will Gumm, Frankfort.....	Selling fur without a trapping license.....	Toburen	Convicted
Jack Graves, Wichita.....	Hunting without license; killing squirrels in closed season; hunting upon public highway	Toland	Convicted
Albert Cantrell, Wichita.....	Hunting without license; killing squirrels in closed season; hunting upon public highway	Toland	Convicted
J. B. Cox, Parsons.....	(1) Buying fur at places other than that specified in license; (2) failing to keep an accurate record of all fur purchased.....	Rickel	Convicted
Albert Boxberger, Osborne.....	Selling fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
Mike J. Unrein, Hays.....	Selling fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
George Hanel, Munden.....	Selling fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
N. L. Oliver, Belleville.....	Selling fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
D. H. Gregory, Alton.....	Selling fur without trapping license.....	Jones and Byrne.....	Convicted
J. D. Stockton, Columbus.....	Hunting without hunting license.....	Rickel and Piggott.....	Convicted
Arthur White, Fredonia.....	(1) Taking fur without license; (2) selling pelts without trapping license.....	Rickel	Convicted
Constantine Sauer, Morland.....	Shipping fur without trapping license.....	Faulkner, Jones and Byrne,	Convicted
Harry Weber, Mayfield.....	Pursuing, shooting and killing one deer.....	Andrew, Suenram and Ramsey	Convicted
Donald McDonald, Howard.....	Hunting without permission.....	Marshall Handy (county game protector)	Convicted
Russell McDonald, Howard.....	Hunting without permission.....	Marshall Handy	Convicted
Albert H. Root, Ellsworth.....	Shooting, killing and having one dead pheasant in possession	P. E. Grimes (county game protector)	Convicted
Joe Henderson, Hutchinson.....	Hunting without license.....	Frank Bowen (county game protector)	Convicted



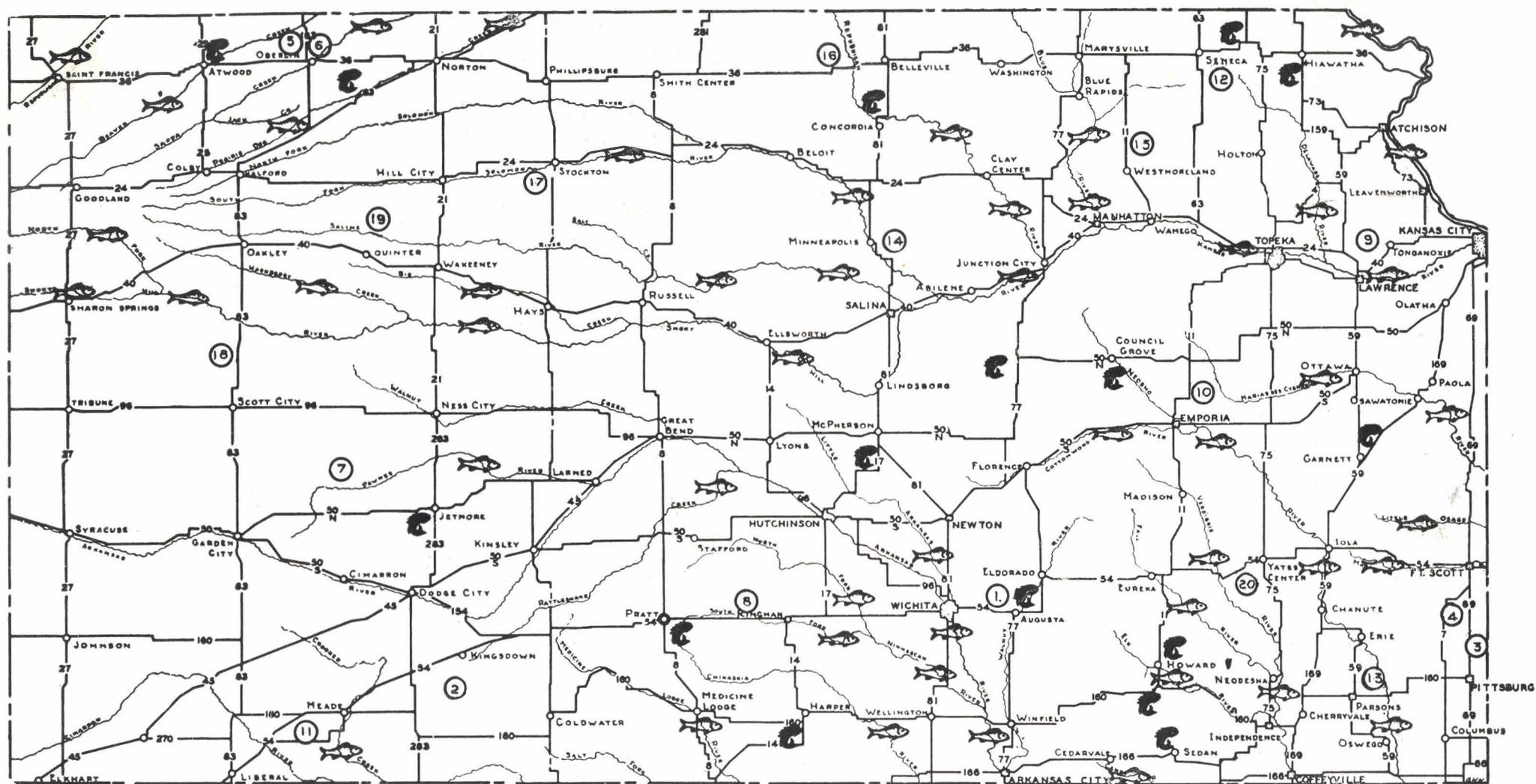


Black Crappie, Calico Bass (*Pomoxis Sparoides*)



White Crappie (*Pomoxis Annularis*)

KANSAS FISHING LAKES AND STREAMS



② State Lakes

🐟 City and County Lakes

🐟 River and Stream Fishing

1. Butler County State Park
2. Clark County State Park
3. Crawford County State Park No. 1
4. Crawford County State Park No. 2
5. Decatur County State Park No. 1
6. Decatur County State Park No. 2
7. Finney County State Park

8. Kingman County State Park
9. Leavenworth County State Park
10. Lyon County State Park
11. Meade County State Park
12. Nemaha County State Park
13. Neosho County State Park
14. Ottawa County State Park

15. Pottawatomie County State Park
16. Republic County State Park
17. Rooks County State Park
18. Scott County State Park
19. Sheridan County State Park
20. Woodson County State Park