

KANSAS FISH AND GAME



VOL. VI

APRIL 30, 1944

No. IV



COMMISSIONERS

LEE LARRABEE, *Chairman*..... Liberal
 GARLAND ATKINS, *Secretary*..... Fort Scott
 JAY J. OWENS..... Salina
 H. M. GILLESPIE..... Wichita
 CHAS. HASSIG..... Kansas City
 HARRY F. LUTZ..... Sharon Springs

FISH AND GAME DIVISION

HARRY SMITH, *Superintendent*..... Quail Farm, Calista
 LEONARD SUTHERLAND, *Superintendent*..... Meade County Pheasant Farm
 CHARLES TROXEL, *Superintendent*..... Quail Farm, Pittsburg
 SETH WAY..... Fish Culturist

DISTRICT GAME PROTECTORS

FRED ANDERSON..... Doniphan
 JIM ANDREW..... Anthony
 A. W. BENANDER..... Topeka
 H. D. BYRNE..... Concordia
 JAMES C. CARLSON..... Salina
 JOE CONCANNON..... Lansing
 JOHN DEAN..... Emporia
 JOE FAULKNER..... Colby
 ARTHUR JONES..... Downs
 A. E. KYSER..... Savonburg
 ROY KIEFER..... Oberlin
 OLIN MINCKLEY..... Ottawa
 WALTER RICKEL..... Independence
 JOHN SHAY..... Kingman
 CARL SUENRAM..... Moundridge
 CHARLEY TOLAND..... Wichita
 JOHN Q. HOLMES, Pittman-Robertson Project Leader..... Garden City

LEGAL

B. N. MULLENDORE..... Howard

PUBLICITY

HELEN DEVAULT..... Pratt

STATE PARK AND LAKE SUPERINTENDENTS

DUANE CARPENTER, Butler County State Park..... Augusta
 R. A. VAN DALSEM, Leavenworth County State Park..... Tonganoxie
 W. F. PIGGOTT, Neosho County State Park..... St. Paul
 GEORGE M. CODY, Decatur County State Park..... Oberlin
 C. R. DAMERON, Ottawa County State Park..... Minneapolis
 B. E. HALE, Scott County State Park..... Scott City
 A. M. SPRIGGS, Woodson County State Park..... Yates Center



KANSAS FISH AND GAME

Published Monthly By

THE KANSAS FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Pratt, Kansas

LEE LARRABEE, *Chairman*

DAVE LEAHY, *Director*

GARLAND ATKINS, *Secretary*

VOL. VI

APRIL 30, 1944

No. IV

Where to Fish

Much of this issue of KANSAS FISH AND GAME will be devoted to pointing out the good fishing spots of Kansas. We have asked the district game protectors to make such reports to us in order to be of further service to our readers and license holders.

The reports of game protectors follow.

From Protector Minckley

One of the first things to decide upon when we start fishing is to fish in water that has fish in it. Catching them is another problem sometimes requiring "Work," or perhaps luck. Sometimes called the sport of fishing. With this in mind I will tell you about the better fishing streams and lakes in the counties of Anderson, Franklin, Miami, Johnson and Douglas. You might pass it on to the fishermen, thus suggesting to them at least some new places to try.

In Anderson county there are several fair sized creeks, and the Garnett City Lake which are open to the public. Most of the good fishing places on the creeks are open to the public.

Deer creek heads northwest of Kincaid, and runs in a southwesternly direction toward Iola into Allen county. This creek is a fair sized stream three miles east from Colony, and from that county road downstream is good fishing for most all kinds of fish found in Kansas, including some channel cat. There is a "hole" of water above the Colony city dam about a mile long. This is hard to find, but one can ask anyone around Colony to find out how to get in there. This particular water is hard to fly fish unless you have a boat.

Another stream in this vicinity is Indian creek, west of Colony about six miles. You cross it on the highway from Colony to Le Roy. There are bass in this creek, and it is easier for the fly fisherman to fish in many places due to the lack of timber along its banks. There are also many nice stretches of water on down south by the county line which afford good bullhead fishing.

As you drive southwest, west, or northwest from Garnett you will cross Cedar creek, which runs through a narrow valley or canyon with a good growth of Cedar trees on the bluffs. There are more cedar in this valley than anywhere else in Kansas, if you like scenery. Going from Garnett one mile south, then west to the creek, fishing is good all the way down the

eight or nine miles where it empties into Pottawatomie creek and its tributaries. Pottawatomie creek drains most of the north half of Anderson county. The main creek is crossed on highway 59, five miles north of Garnett and runs east to Greeley. This is a good channel cat stream even as far up as Harris. I know of channels up to ten pounds being caught near there. Some of the best places to fish on the Pottawatomie are hard to drive to, but by inquiring your way you can get back to the stream. For instance south of Scipio you start driving south on an old road going southwest of the church, and keep going about a mile or better, you will come to the creek.

North of the city of Garnett is the city lake, a nice body of water, with picnic accommodations in all parts of the park. Bass, crappie and bluegill are the principal fish caught here, although some big channels are caught in the spring and fall. The bluegill run pretty small, and the live minnow fishermen do have trouble with the small bass taking their bait.

In Franklin county the Marais des Cygnes river is the main fishing stream. The river comes into the county southwest of Pomona, and leaves southeast of Rantoul. It passes through Ottawa about the middle of the county. Most all of this water is good channel cat fishing, that is the fish that are there if you can catch them. There are four dams in the river beginning in Ottawa, and up the river west; making most of the water west for ten or twelve miles backwater. Channel cat up to thirteen and a half pounds have been caught this spring in this stream.

Middle creek flows northeast from Princeton to the river. This is good fishing this year. Bass and channel cat are pretty plentiful in Middle creek, as well as the other species common in this section. There is some good fishing just east of Princeton one mile, also one mile south of Imes in Franklin county.

In Douglas county we have Wakarusa creek, Lone Star County Lake, Kaw river, and several small creeks which are fished with success.

The Wakarusa enters the county about middle way of the west line, flows east to empty into the Kaw at Eudora. Channel cat are caught at almost anyplace along twenty-five or thirty miles of the stream in this county. It is not a very good bass stream.

Lone Star County Lake, located about fifteen miles southwest of Lawrence, is one of the most popular fishing lakes of northwest Kansas. It is a beautiful lake

of about two hundred acres in size, well stocked with bass and crappie, bullheads, bluegill, rock bass, and a few channel cat are caught here. Boats and bait are available at the lake, or your own boat and motor may be used. The regulations as to the fishing, camping, etc., are identical to those of state lakes. A one dollar a year county license is required besides your state license at Lone Star. Rock creek, south of Clinton in west Douglas county, is considered good fishing for bullheads, bass and pan fish.

The Douglas county sportsmen's club has several ponds and lakes under its supervision which may be fished by most anyone complying with the requirements of the club. Mr. Fred Kahn, secretary, in the county clerk's office at Lawrence, can give you the information.

Johnson county has several small creeks, but Cedar and Kill are the best fishing streams. Kill creek flows from the Gardner lake into the Kaw at De Soto. Cedar flows north to the Kaw beginning west of Olathe three or four miles. The headwaters of the Little Blue river are the creeks a few miles south of Overland Park. Bullheads, bass, crappie and rock bass may be caught in these creeks.

The Gardner city lake, located two miles north of Gardner, is well stocked with crappie, channel cat, and bass. A city license is required to fish here, and boats are for rent at the lake. Olathe city lake south of town is also open to the public with limitations. The city clerk can give information.

Miami county has several good fishing streams. Bull creek leads in northwest part of the county, flows through west side of Paola to the Marais des Cygnes, five miles southeast of that town. Wea creek comes from Missouri line west past Somerset. It joins Bull creek east of Paola. These are good fishing creeks. The Marais des Cygnes river flows through Miami county through Osawatomie, and south into Linn county past the Miami county state park.

The Miami county state park is located in the southeast corner of Miami county. It is two miles east of Fontana. The river forms the north and west boundaries of the park. An eighty-acre lake in the park is one of the best bass lakes in the state.

There are many bass of large size in this lake. The hillsides east of the lake are covered with hard maple trees, which are not found in but a few other spots in Kansas.

The towns of Paola and Osawatomie in Miami county each have a nice lake which afford much good fishing for the people in that vicinity.

From Protector Kyser

Southeast Kansas is bountifully blessed with numerous rivers, creeks, lakes, lagoons, ponds and strip mines, most of which are ideal fishing spots.

Spring river and Shoal creek are located in the

southeast corner of Cherokee county. These are the only streams in Eastern Kansas fed by the underflow from the Rockies. They carry clear, cool water and are fine for bass, crappie, channels and all pan fish.

The Neosho river cuts the southwest corner of Cherokee county and is the favored spot of many anglers. The take from the Neosho includes the drum and an occasional eel which does not seem to inhabit Spring river.

Lightning creek flows southwest into the Neosho river in the western part of Cherokee county and is a dandy pan-fish creek.

There are three lakes in Cherokee county. One at West Mineral, which is always open to the public, the Cherokee Rod and Gun Club lake and the Railroad lake at Corona.

There are hundreds of strip pits scattered across Cherokee, Crawford and reaching into Bourbon county. These pits are being stocked by the Fish and Game Commission as soon as the water becomes suitable for fish. Practically all of these pits are open to the public.

Crawford county has Lightning, Limestone, Thunderbolt and Walnut creeks in west half of the county. These empty into the Neosho river and provide fine bass, crappie, perch and bullhead fishing, also channels and flatheads in the larger holes.

Other favored points in Crawford county are the series of pits in Crawford County Park No. 1, located five miles north of Pittsburg on highway 69. There are ovens and suitable picnic grounds for those wishing to spend the day. The pits located around the State Quail Farm on West Twentieth street provides some splendid fishing. The Eagle-Cherokee pits, six miles northwest of Pittsburg, the Whitmer pits, three miles west and one mile south of Pittsburg, the Apex pits located at Fleming, the Pioneer pits near Gross and the Gobl pits north of Arma and extending into Bourbon county have all been heavily stocked with bass, crappie and channel catfish and are practically all open to the public. They are fine points to limber up the old wrist with a fly or casting rod.

Last but not least is the beautiful State Park No. 2, located on highway No. 7, nine miles north of Girard. All-weather road leads into the park and boats and bait can be obtained at the concession which is open from mid-April until October. Nice camping grounds with drive-in shelters and water available are located near the lake and free to all who wish to spend a few days.

Bourbon county has two rivers, the Marmaton and Little Osage. Both head in Allen county and flow east into Missouri. Point, Pawnee, Drywood, Wolverine and Mill creeks are tributaries of the Marmaton and the Osage has as side feeders the Limestone and Indian creeks from the north, also several smaller creeks from the south. Both rivers are good bass,

crappie, drum, channel and flathead streams and there is an occasional take of jack salmon and spoonbill catfish from both of these streams and the Marais des Cygnes which all run together and form the Big Osage in Missouri.

The cautious fly fisherman has his day drifting down the small creeks mentioned trying to lure the bass, crappie and pan fish from his favorite haunt under a log or around a brush pile.

Fort Scott has two city lakes, one in Gum Park in the southwest part of the city and the Rock Creek Lake four miles southwest of the city limits. These points are favored by many who have only a short time to spend fishing as they are situated close in. Bass, crappie, bullheads, drum and bluegills are the main take in these waters.

The Bourbon County Lake, known as the Elm Creek Lake, located fifteen miles southwest of Fort Scott near Kansas highway No. 39, is one of the favorite fishing spots of the channel catfishermen in these parts. A great number of channels have been taken there and catches up to fifteen pounds are not uncommon. The bass, crappie and pan fish enthusiast also do right well in this lake.

Free water and shelterhouses are available at Elm Creek Lake, but no boats or concessions are located there.

As we move into Linn county we find the mighty Marais des Cygnes (marsh of the swans) flows diagonally across the country, leaving the state south of the historical Trading Post scene of the Marais des Cygnes Massacre (1859 A. D., or thereabouts). The main tributary of this river in Linn county is the Big Sugar which heads in Anderson county and flows east across the county and empties into the river below Trading Post. These streams are both famous for the big flatheads and channels they produce. There are several large overflow lakes along the course of these streams which provide some of the best bass and crappie fishing to be found anywhere. Mine creek, in the south part of the county, furnishes fine pan fish.

Pleasanton has a lovely city lake, located in the west part of town, which has been stocked for several years and provides excellent fishing for those not caring to brave the banks of the river or fish the riffles.

There are two dams on the Neosho in Allen county, one at Iola and the other at Humboldt. The water below these dams are favored fishing points and a great number of channels, flatheads, drum and carp are taken during the spring and summer by the pole fisherman.

There are several spots along the river accessible by automobile which are ideal fishing and camping points.

Deer, Elm, Martin, Indian and Big creeks all flow southwest across Allen county and empty into the Neosho river. These creeks are suitable for wading

or launching a light boat, work gently downstream and feel out the banks and drifts ahead. The results will be amazing.

From Protector Rickel

This report covers five counties, Montgomery, Labette, Neosho, Wilson and Woodson. Of the five, perhaps the "best fishing" is in Labette county, followed closely by Neosho. We shall make this report in that order.

Folks living in or near Chetopa are particularly fortunate. Here is the best natural fishing spot to be found in Kansas. Here every kind of fish known to Kansas waters can be caught. Nowhere else on the Neosho river can bass be taken regularly on plugs in the spring. Starting at the dam and working south, then east and south again is a long riffle that can be waded. It is here that the bass are taken on plugs—red and white, the bigger the better. Wigglers and silver spoons with pork rind work as well. For those who use a boat, plugging can be done to the Oklahoma line. Near the dam drum, catfish and crappie. On one occasion the writer personally witnessed the hooking and landing of a 48½-pound flathead. On another, a lady was seen to land a 20-pound yellow cat. The lady angler weighing not too many pounds more than the fish she battled.

Upstream from the dam the deeper water is ideal for pole and trotline fishing. Above the railroad bridge, Labette creek empties into the Neosho and this stream, too, provides excellent fishing. West and north from Chetopa are Hackberry and other smaller creeks made to order for the fly fisherman.

Perhaps the fact that the dam on the Neosho at Chetopa is the first above the Grand lake formed by the dam at Disney, Okla., accounts for this being better than average fishing water.

Proceeding on upstream from Chetopa we come to another dam at Oswego. In between is some of the best river fishing that could be asked for. Many riffles, deep holes, quiet pools and the usual brush piles provide as great a variety of water as could be desired. To save repetition, it can be said here that this holds true for the whole of the Neosho river from the Oklahoma line to the last village in my district, Neosho Falls in Woodson county.

Sportsmen living in or near Oswego have no farther to go to get to the fish than do those at Chetopa. The dam is within walking distance of town. Deep water fishing is but little farther up or down stream. Labette creek lies to the west and the smaller creeks previously mentioned are to the west and south and are readily accessible. Horseshoe lake east of town is stocked by the Neosho river every spring during the floods and many nice bass and bullheads are taken here.

Labette creek, near the little town of Labette, provides bass, catfish, crappie, etc. Labette is between

Oswego and Parsons and can be located by consulting any Kansas road map.

The next dam above Oswego is a new one and has proved unusually popular the last two seasons. It is located at Service, the K. G. & E. plant east of Parsons. This dam is reached from Parsons by proceeding east on 160 about eight miles to an abandoned filling station. Thence south until the waterworks for the Kn. O. P. can be seen on the river bank to the east (a distance of about three miles). Turn east here and go to the plant gates, south about 100 yards and then directly east to the river. From the east the dam is reached by turning south off of 160 at Strauss just before reaching the river bridge, proceeding south for three miles and then west directly to the dam which is about one-fourth mile north from the K. G. & E. plant.

Besides the dam and lake just mentioned, there is Labette creek to the south, east and north (flows through the eastern outskirts of Parsons), the smaller creeks previously mentioned and to Big Hill creek west of town about ten miles. Four or five low-water dams on this creek hold water in pools throughout all but the driest of seasons. The Parsons city waterworks dam is located on the Neosho river about 11 or 12 miles northeast of town. It can be reached from either the east or west and has always been a very popular fishing spot. This dam is in Neosho county. Any person living in or around Parsons can give directions for reaching it. It will be found that this water is also fished extensively by anglers from Crawford and Cherokee counties.

Two State lakes are located in the five counties being discussed. Lake Fegan is in Woodson county west of Yates Center and southeast of Toronto. More will be said of it later. Lake McKinley is in the Neosho county state park and is the first state lake built. It is a beautiful lake of some 95 acres. A year ago this lake was lowered and seined of undesirable rough fish and of many small crappie that had become too numerous for the amount of feed in the lake. Since that time both channel cat and bass fishing has been much better. Lake McKinley is six miles north and three miles east from Parsons. Your fishing license is your ticket of admission, for this lake, as are all state lakes, is open to the public without charge. Wayne F. Piggott, genial caretaker, will make you feel at home.

Proceeding on upstream from the Parsons city dam we come to the lower end of the "Big Island." It can be noted from the dam that the river seems to branch and come from both the northwest and the northeast about one-fourth mile upstream. This is exactly what it does do. The "Big Island" is completely surrounded by the Neosho river. Your Kansas maps will show that the river forks just southeast of St. Paul and from there to the spot just mentioned, there are two Neosho rivers. The land in between, about 13 or 14 sections,

is the Island. Excellent fishing is to be had in any of this water. The Island proper is reached by three bridges, one south of St. Paul, one on the east and one on the west side of the Island.

West of St. Paul is another bridge, a fine large modern structure on the main highway. Either above or below here is excellent fishing. Permission is not hard to obtain. Again at Shaw the highway crosses the river and here, as elsewhere along the Neosho, the fishing is good.

On upstream from Shaw, below Chanute, is what is known as Austin riffle. This has been a popular fishing hole for more years than I can remember. Ten cents a car is charged for parking. The spot is most easily reached from Chanute. A newly surfaced rock road runs southeast from Chanute for all but the last mile of the distance—about six miles.

East of Chanute about a mile and again north of Chanute about three miles bridges cross the Neosho on main highways. Just south of Chanute is the Santa Fe reservoir which provides many a pleasant evening fishing for those who must have a spot to which they can walk. Bass and crappie predominate. Members of the country club have the use of a fine lake which was cleaned out by the game department fish crew about two years ago.

Skipping the Neosho through Allen county we go on up into Woodson. Protector Kyser will cover this water, Allen county being in his district. The Neosho river up here is not as large as down below, but it can be said that the fishing is excellent. The most fished spot is the dam at Neosho Falls. Good deeper water is above and from here on up to Le Roy fishing is very much as described for the lower part of the river.

North of Yates Center is Turkey creek which is an excellent small stream for fly fishing. Some mighty fine bass are taken from this water. Crappie and bullheads too, of course. But for catfish—well, the old Neosho can't be beat.

Lake Fegan is as beautiful a lake as we have in Kansas and has produced some of the largest fish. It is reached by proceeding west from Yates Center to Batesville, thence south on the gravel to where it turns east, thence east to the lake. The lake is situated in rough country profuse with rocks and jack oaks. It looks almost natural except for the dam on the south end.

In Wilson county the Fall and Verdigris rivers provide most of the fishing. The Verdigris up around Benedict is famous as a channel catfish stream. Chicken blood and a fly rod or cane pole are indicated for this water during the summer months. Plan to wade the riffles.

Fall River from New Albany and Fall river, down as far as the dam at Neodesha provides most excellent fishing. This stream is particularly noted for its bass and crappie fishing, although drum, catfish, etc., are

to be had also. Fall is probably the clearest of the four rivers in these five counties. Riffles and weed beds provide wonderful places for fly fishing and for plugging.

Three dams on Fall river in Wilson county are popular. The first is at Fredonia, two miles south and one west at the city waterworks. The others, known as Dunn's and Middle dams, are between Fredonia and Neodesha. All three are readily accessible and provide good fishing. South of Fredonia, between Dunn's and the Fredonia dams, is a long stretch of deep water known as Oxbow bend. Inquire at Fredonia or Neodesha about how to reach this water. It is in the form of a complete horseshoe and can be reached at most times of the year only by one road leading south out of Fredonia. At other times it can be reached from Neodesha by fording.

Fryer's lake, four miles west and one north of Neodesha, is a good fishing pond, but a charge is made for fishing. In the past this charge has been twenty-five cents. However, it is possible that this water is leased this season.

Verdigris and Fall rivers are both within walking distance of Neodesha. Fall is not considered good below the Standard Oil Company plant to where it empties into the Verdigris near Neodesha. The Verdigris is good all along its length.

Folks at Independence have the dam right in the city limits and take full advantage of it most any evening all summer long. On upstream and down below is plenty of deep water. Brown's ford and McTaggart's south and east of town are popular spots. Those with an extra gallon or two of gasoline like to drive on down toward Coffeyville to what is known as the New Dam. The trip is well worth while. This is one of the more popular fishing spots in this area. Be sure to ask to be directed to this dam if you are fortunate to be in this vicinity.

Right at Coffeyville is what is known as the Old dam. The city waterworks are here. It is not too far from town to be reached by walking. At certain times of the year (Spring is good) the fishing is excellent.

Pumpkin creek empties into the Verdigris river near Coffeyville. This is a stream that can stand a lot of fishing. It runs from way up in Labette county through the area around Mound Valley and so on down to the Verdigris. Permission must be obtained. In some places this is possible, in others not. Unfortunately this stream has been commercialized, that is stretches of it have been leased for fishing purposes. However, it is well worth not overlooking.

At Cherryvale is what is known as Lake Tanko. It is in town at the ice plant on the southern outskirts and within easy walking distance. It was stocked by the game department with fish seined from ponds in the area now occupied by the Kn. O. P. at Parsons.

At Thayer is a small pond known as the Thayer lake and for early spring plugging, this can't be beat. Some unusually large bass have been taken from this lake.

Between Independence and Cherryvale are Drum and Mouse creeks, both good little creeks for a quiet Sunday afternoon. Permission should be obtained.

Private lakes in the area are the Havana Lake at Havana and the country club lake at Cherryvale. Also the Rajah Lake at Independence. All are well stocked.

Unless otherwise specified, no charge is made for fishing at any spot mentioned unless it is private water.

Maybe now a word about baits would not be out of line. Besides the artificials and the usual popular shiners, we use soft-shell crayfish, beef melt and liver, either chicken or beef blood, with the former holding a slight edge, chicken entrails, shrimp (fresh), helgramites, and a variety of prepared catfish baits. My own preference is chicken blood for channel catfish and shiners for bass and crappie. Flatheads take huge gobs of angle worms in the Neosho. The 48½ pounder was caught on a gob almost as large as your fist—well maybe not quite that large.

From Protector Toland

The Little Walnut, along its course in Butler county, is considered by rod anglers as one of the state's best bass, crappie and bluegill fishing waters. Hickory creek, with its headwaters south of Keighley, is rated equally as good by that other class of anglers who prefer channel cat and bullhead fishing. This stream is reported to teem with fish from its headwaters to the very point where it empties into the Little Walnut.

Rock creek, flowing through the southern part of the county, is another one of the state's good bass and crappie streams. Satchell creek, that receives its waters from the overflow of the El Dorado city lake, and Dry creek which supplies much of the water for that lake, are other good fishing streams. The east branch of the Whitewater, near Potwin, is known locally as another good fishing stream.

There are three large lakes in Butler county as well as the fishing streams heretofore mentioned, that are heavily and successfully fished during the spring and summer months. Those lakes are the El Dorado lake, six miles northwest of that city, the Augusta city lake, just north of Augusta and the Butler County State or Santa Fe Lake, five miles west and two miles north of Augusta.

Grouse creek of Cowley county, furnishes plenty of good bass, crappie, bluegill and perch fishing for the fly fishermen of that area. Dutch creek, up around Atlanta, is another one of the fine fishing streams of this county. Fishing has always been good in the Big Walnut south of the dam at Winfield. The Big Arkansas river in the southwest part of the county

affords many places to fish for the larger flatheads and channel cat.

Chautauqua county has the Big Caney that flows south across the western part of the county and the Middle and North Caney rivers as well. The Caneys, incidentally, support a large variety of fish, including the three basses, the two crappies, bluegills and nearly every specie of catfish ordinarily found in Kansas. The anglers who visit Chautauqua county have such other fine fishing lakes as Pool, Baker, Spring, Salt and Wolfe, as well as the city lake near Sedan in which to test their angling skill.

Elk county has the Elk river, noted for its fine fishing possibilities from Howard south, especially near Elk Falls and Longton. This is a good bass, crappie and catfish stream. The Big Caney river, near Grenola, is another favorite fishing spot with those who reside in Elk county.

Elk county has many good creeks, including Indian, Painter Hood and Paw-Paw, that can be safely recommended as a source of much fish life. The Howard city lake, just north of Howard, is another favorite fishing spot in Elk county.

The Fall river, Walnut and Verdigris are the three principal streams of Greenwood county. These streams are heavily fished each season and many good catches of bass, crappie and channel catfish have been reported from them. The principal creeks of that county, and all fairly good fishing streams, are the Otter, Homer, Slate and Batchelor creeks. Eureka, the county seat of Greenwood county, has a city lake from which many nice fish are taken every year.

Sedgwick county has three good rivers to fish. They are the Little and Big Arkansas and the north and south branches of the Ninnescah. These rivers are primarily channel, flathead and shovelhead catfish streams.

From Protector Andrew

There are many fine fishing spots in Sumner county. The three spots most intensively and successfully fished, however, are to be found near Oxford, Wellington and Drury. The Mill Race, plus two dams along the Arkansas river two miles north of Oxford, are a "sure go" for satisfactory strings of channel and flathead catfish. At Wellington the angler has his choice of two splendid fishing spots. The city lake at Wellington and nearby Slate creek. The former body of water has been stocked repeatedly with fish of various sizes from many sources. Although a nominal fee is charged to fish that water it is money profitably invested when the fish are striking. Slate creek is a public stream where the angler may fish without paying any fees whatever. Knowing anglers living in Sumner county consider Slate creek as an exceptionally good stream for bass, crappie and channel cat.

The fishing spot at Drury, in my opinion, excells all

others that I have fished. The fact that a dam has been thrown across the Chickaskia river at that point has resulted in consistently good fishing there for many years. As the stream is a natural channel cat stream the bulk of the fish taken therefrom are of that kind. Drury is situated between Wellington and Coldwater on U. S. highway 81.

HARPER COUNTY. The anglers of this county report their best fishing waters as being the Anthony city lake of 157 acres and the Chickaskia river flowing through the northwest corner of the county. The river fishing is preferred by most of the local anglers because of the fact that it has many deep holes heavily populated with channel catfish.

BARBER COUNTY. The fishing waters of this county for the most part are confined to private ponds and the unpredictable Medicine river. When that stream is flowing, fish in suitable numbers can be taken from almost any point along its course. When the water is low, fish must be taken from the deep holes that are found on private ranch properties. Fortunately, the ranchmen of this county are not adverse to granting fishing privileges to the well-intentioned sportsmen. They willingly let those who ask permission, to fish not only the Medicine river but their private ponds as well. The next sixty days, May and June, are considered the best times to fish the waters of Barber county.

CLARK COUNTY. The best fishing spot in this county is the Clark County State Lake, comprising 357 acres of good crystal clear water. It has been heavily stocked with bass, crappie and several species of catfish.

From Protector Jones

SMITH COUNTY. The north Solomon river across the southwest corner of county, the Gaylord dams and several good farm ponds which have been stocked as result of fish salvage. Bullheads and channels are the main catch.

PHILLIPS COUNTY. North Solomon river runs through the south part of the county and affords channel and bullhead fishing. Kirwin dam is fished considerable. The Agra city lake and the Logan city lake yield crappie, bass, channels and perch.

ROOKS COUNTY. The south Solomon river runs entirely through the county with the bullhead and channel cat fishing the better in the east part of county. The Stamper lake has been very good fishing past two seasons with adequate supply of water. The usual run of lake fish, crappie, bass, bluegill and channel are caught here. The Rooks County State Lake at Stockton is a very good fishing spot along with the township lake at Plainville. The Plainville lake is the larger lake and I think going to be very good this summer as the stocking from the hatchery took place in 1941.

OSBORNE COUNTY. Both north and south Solomon

rivers afford bullhead and channel fishing, Osborne and Alton dams on the south fork, Downs dam on north fork. We have stocked several farm ponds in the county in 1942 and 1943. The Sollner and Gradig ponds were stocked two years ago. The McMillen pond south of Osborne is a good bass, perch and bullhead pond.

RUSSELL COUNTY. This county has both the Saline and Smoky rivers running through the county from west to east and most any channel cat fishermen in their localities know what these two streams yield in the way of channels. I think these two streams are my best for channels. The city lake at Russell yields bass, crappie, perch and channels and is very handy to the city of Russell. In 1942 we took out about six thousand crappie from the Russell lake, account too many with a result of small crappie, and distributed them all in Russell county in farm ponds. I expect that any farm pond of any consequence in the county would yield crappie and bullheads now. Big creek is very good for all species of fish, emptying into the Smoky three miles west of Russell, Kan.

ELLIS COUNTY. In addition to the Smoky and Saline rivers through the county, it has very good fishing in Big creek, which is kept stocked from lake above the dam at Ellis. A load of all kinds of fish were put in this lake February 15, 1944. Big creek is spring-fed and the Ellis lake always has adequate supply of water. In October and November of last year we had a fish crew at Ellis removing coarse fish from the lake, which should improve game fishing conditions. The carp fishermen can rest assured that they can still catch carp as we did not remove all of them. The Wann-Madden lake southeast of Ellis was constructed by sportsmen of Hays and Ellis and is a club lake with several hundred members. It has been very good for all species of fish the past year. It is spring-fed and surface drain. Big creek through the city of Hays with its eight low-water dams affords good fishing, stocking being maintained by the Ellis lake. The Wann-Madden lake affords good stocking for the Smoky river because any overflow immediately enters the river in about one-eighth of a mile.

RUSH COUNTY. Wet Walnut creek runs through the county from west to east, mostly bullhead fishing until you get near the mouth in Barton county where channels are caught quite extensively. The Rush county fishermen have access to the Smoky river which lies near the north Rush county line in Ellis county.

BARTON COUNTY. This county has the Arkansas river, Wet Walnut creek and a branch of Cow creek. Wet Walnut is good for bullheads and channels. The Arkansas has been good channel cat fishing the past two years in spring. With scant rainfall and hot weather the river gets very low, but usually has fair stream of water from Larned east. Pawnee creek

empties into the Arkansas at Larned. In Cow creek mostly bullhead fishing with some scale fish are caught. The Barton county lake between Hoisington and Great Bend is a club lake. Bass, crappie, perch and channels are taken at this location. The Joe Cochran pond four miles north of Hoisington was stocked by the Department in 1942 with all species and should be fair fishing this season. The McKinney sand pit at Great Bend yields lots of crappie and perch, few bass and channels.

PAWNEE COUNTY. This county has the Arkansas river with fair fishing for channels at times when there is adequate water. Coon creek is good bull head fishing. Pawnee creek is the best fishing in the county, stocked with all species of fish. There are four dams within twelve miles up from mouth that afford excellent fishing. The mouth of this creek is at the City of Larned.

From Protector Benander

Well, I can't let the magazine go to press without telling where the good fishing places are in my district.

The Wakarusa, south from Topeka, through Shawnee and Douglas is especially good bullhead and channel cat fishing. Mission creek through Shawnee county west from Topeka is another bullhead stream.

The upper end of Soldier creek, good bullhead and channel cat fishing, but several miles west from the mouth where it empties into the Kaw, is like all streams close to the mouth, not so good.

The Delaware through Jefferson county is known by all fishermen in the east part of the state and needs no advertising. Stranger creek runs through Atchison and Leavenworth and connects with the Kaw at Linwood. It is a good bullhead and channel cat stream all the way and especially good early and late fall fishing.

Lake Tonganoxie at Tonganoxie is a state lake and well stocked for all kinds of good fishing and fishermen will have good fishing there at all times of the year with no extra charge, only a state license and a good right arm to pull the big ones out.

Lake Shawnee here at Topeka is well stocked and a county lake.

Last but not least, Lake Linge, east from Topeka. This is a private lake and a small fee is charged to fish there but it is well worth it as just last week three fishermen standing in mud shoe-top deep were well paid for they came back with four channel catfish weighing a little over forty pounds.

Almost forgot to mention Cross creek in the west part of Shawnee county. It empties into the Kaw south from Rossville and is another good bullhead and channel catfish stream in the early spring and late fall. Try this some time and see for yourself.

From Protector Suenram

In Harvey county the Little Arkansas river should be very good this year. In this stream one will find

about every kind of fish known in Kansas. The Harvey county park, located eight miles northwest of Halstead, is on the Little Arkansas river and is a fine place for fishing and picnicking. There are other small streams and ponds in this county that furnish good fishing.

Reno county there is the Arkansas river, Ninnescah, Cow creek and the Little Arkansas river, several very good ponds and lakes. All of these furnish good fishing. Some of the lakes are excellent for bass and crappie fishing.

In Rice county there is good fishing in the Arkansas river, Little Arkansas, Cow creek and the Little River Lake. There are also several private lakes where fishing is good.

Some of the best channel cat fishing in the state is found along the Smoky river in McPherson county. Lake Inman is a swell place for fishing and boating.

In Marion county we find the Cottonwood river, Mud, Clear, and Doyle creeks. Plenty of fish in all these streams. Bass, crappie, bluegill and channel cats are plentiful in the Marion county lake. This lake is located two miles east and two miles south of Marion and is one of the finest lakes in this part of the state.

From Protector Shay

Here is the dope on some of the best fishing waters in my district.

KINGMAN COUNTY. There is no fishing stream in Kansas comparable for results with the Ninnescah river. The angler, if he would successfully fish this stream, must seek out the deep holes. In this county is also located the Kingman County State Lake just west of Kingman, where many nice catches of fish have been reported this spring. There are numerous other small lakes and streams in this county popular with Kingman county fishermen. Farmers have been very nice about granting permission to fish along the Ninnescah.

STAFFORD COUNTY. Good fishing has been reported to me by sportsmen who have fished the Rattlesnake west of Stafford, south of Hudson and south and east of Macksville.

KIOWA COUNTY. Thompson creek is the best fishing stream in this county. Many fine strings of fish are regularly taken from the waters around Belvidere.

PRATT COUNTY. The best fishing water in Pratt county is the Ninnescah river where it flows past the state fish hatchery properties.

From Protector Holmes

Fishing is good at Lake McKinney in Kearny county. This lake, the largest body of water in Kansas, is fine for channel catfish and bullheads. Many nice catches have been made and I recently conferred with Fred Mimms, a former banker of Garden City,

who told of the good fishing over there. I personally saw one of his catches; seven channels weighing from three to seven pounds. He used minnows for bait.

Fishing is also good at points along the Pawnee, especially at Wrights and Byler's. Bass and crappie are biting now and at the Byler Resort cabins can be rented by the day or week.

At the Finney County State Lake, about 40 miles north and east of Garden City, very little fishing has been done so far this year, probably on account of the condition of the weather and roads. We are making an effort to have the roads graveled from Kalvesta and from Highway 23 to the west of the lake. When this is done I am sure more of the fishermen from western Kansas will take advantage of the fishing in this good lake. Fred Anderson has just finished a job of seining carp from this lake and has thrown back many nice channel cat, crappie and bass. The fish are there and plenty of 'em and I'm sure they are hungry.

From Protector Byrne

The fishing has not really got under way in my district yet this spring. The spot where the most fish have been taken is at the Beloit dam and below this dam for a distance of about a mile down the Solomon river. I have not heard of many large fish being caught, but there has been a lot of fourteen to sixteen inch channels caught in this stretch of water.

The Little Blue was good just below the bridge on E. 15 highway and was good just below the mouth of Mill creek north of Hanover. This river was not as good as the Solomon last year.

The Republican was not very good last year with the best spots being the Union Pacific jetties north of Wakefield and the sand pit east of Concordia. The river-made ponds west of Scandia were pretty good the early part of the season.

Council Grove Lake Opening May 28

A. J. Schmidt, city clerk of Council Grove, has advised the Editor of KANSAS FISH AND GAME that the formal opening of the Council Grove City Lake will be held at 6 a. m. May 28. At that time anglers will be privileged to fish those waters for the first time.

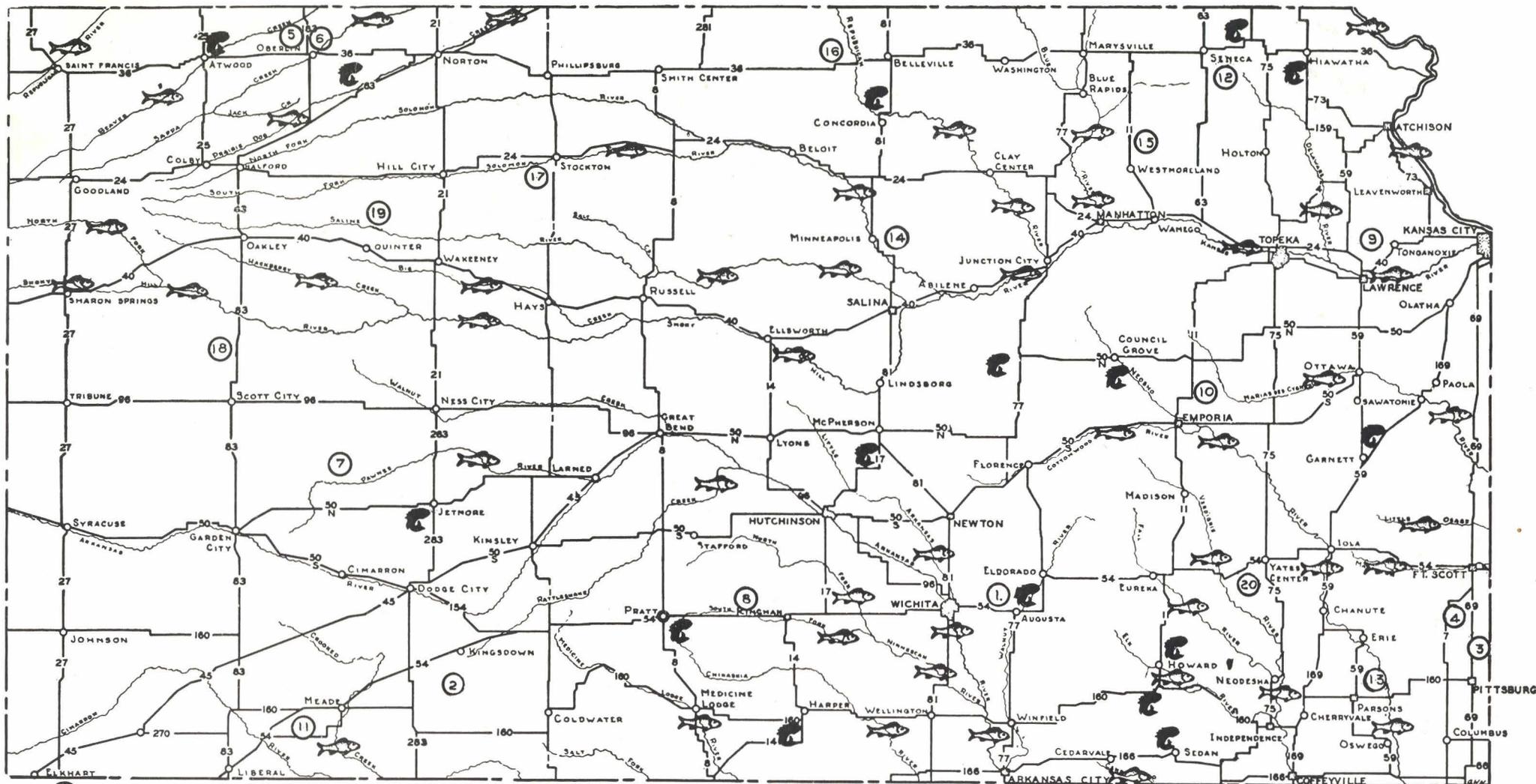
The principal fish in the lake are bass, drum, crappie and channel cats. It is expected that anglers from all over Kansas will be stationed at previously selected points around the ten mile shore line of the lake to compete for one of the many prizes that will be awarded that day for the first and largest fish caught.

The average depth of the lake is twenty-five feet. Night fishing will be permitted. Fishing charge, \$1 for city license that expires June 30, 1944.

Further information regarding boats, baits and other conveniences may be had by writing the city clerk of Council Grove.

Bass Season
Closed April 25 to May 25,
Both Dates Inclusive.

KANSAS FISHING LAKES AND STREAMS



② State Lakes

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

🌊 City and County Lakes

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

🐟 River and Stream Fishing

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