

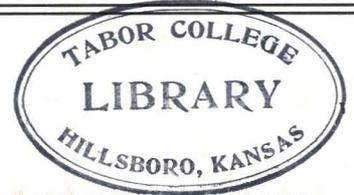
KANSAS FISH AND GAME



VOL. VII

JULY, 1949

No. I



Kansas Helps Its Teen-age Fishermen

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KANSAS FISH AND GAME

Published Quarterly by

THE KANSAS FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Pratt, Kansas

LEE LARRABEE, *Chairman*

DAVE LEAHY, *Director*

CHAS. HASSIG, *Secretary*

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Resume Publication of Bulletin

This issue marks the return of the Commission's magazine after being suspended for several years because of inadequate personnel. The Commission feels that the publication will fill a worth-while place in its information-educational program.

Mr. Harry Lutz, former Sharon Springs newspaper publisher and a member of the Commission for several years, was hired recently by the Commission as publicity director and, with Director Leahy, will have charge of the publicity for the department.

For the time being, the magazine will be published quarterly. Because of the expense too broad a coverage of the bulletin is impossible, but we want as many sportsmen as possible to read it. So, to those of you whose names are on the mailing list, will you kindly pass this bulletin on to some other sportsman whose name is not on the list.

We would like to publish the kind of a bulletin that you sportsmen want to read, so any comments will be appreciated. If you have any fishing pictures—hunting pictures, pictures of your dogs, pictures of yourself or your friends on a hunting or fishing trip—in fact, any kind of good pictures that has a bearing on field or stream sports, mail them to the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, Pratt, Kan., and we will return them to you as soon as we've been able to use them.

This first issue will be devoted largely to a résumé of departmental activities, etc.

Cover Picture

Jim Hewitt, 2014 N. Sixteenth, Kansas City, Kan., with a 10-pound channel catfish caught at Big Eleven Lake in Kansas City, Kan. This lake is open only to fishing by children twelve years of age and under in Wyandotte county and the Kansas City area. The program is sponsored by the Kansas Rod and Gun Club of Kansas City and the lake is stocked by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission. Photo through the courtesy of the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department.

Commissioners Reappointed

Governor Frank Carlson has reappointed to membership on the Commission, Lee Larrabee, of Liberal, and Jay J. Owens, of Salina, for four-year terms which will expire on December 31, 1952. Larrabee fills one of the Republican places on the bipartisan board while Owens fills one of the Democratic places.

Shortly after the announcement of the reappointment of Larrabee and Owens, the Commission met and reelected Larrabee chairman of the group and Chas. Hassig, of Kansas City, as secretary.

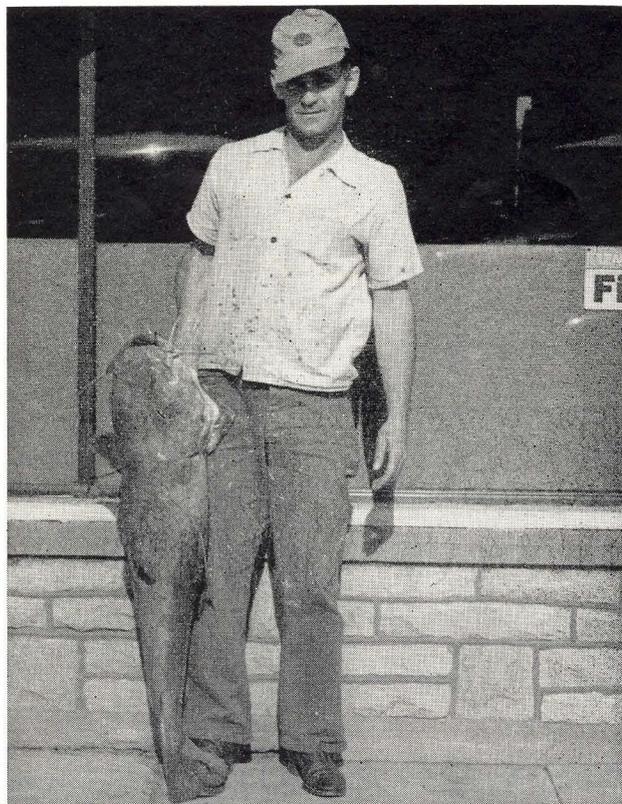
Colby Banker Named Commissioner

Governor Frank Carlson has appointed David Ferguson, of Colby, to membership on the Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Harry Lutz, of Sharon Springs. The appointment is for Lutz's unexpired term ending December 31, 1949.

Ferguson is widely known in western Kansas. Born and reared in Colby, he is a graduate of Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. His college career was interrupted by three years service in the army in World War II, including a year's service in Italy. Returning from the service he went back to Dartmouth to finish his education before assuming the position of vice-president of the Thomas County National Bank at Colby. He is married and has two children. He has been active in civic affairs at Colby and northwest Kansas, and his appointment to the Commission lends encouragement to sportsmen of his district.

Tom Van De Car to Teach Class in Bait Casting at Larned

Mr. Tom Van De Car, well-known sports editor of the Hutchinson *News-Herald*, will teach a class of fishermen in the finer points of bait casting during the coming summer at Larned. This class is being sponsored by the sporting goods dealers of Larned. Van De Car is one of the best at the sport and fishermen in and around Larned will not want to miss this class.



Robert E. (Bud) Lawless, Strong City, Kan., with a 41-pound catfish which he landed on May 10, 1949, at Cottonwood Falls. The fish was caught on a pole and line.

Kansas Helps Its Teen-age Fishermen

From the Rod and Gun column of Frank Alexander in the Kansas City *Star* comes an interesting item on what is being done for the teen-agers of twelve years old and under in Wyandotte county and the Kansas City, Kan., area. Here is Mr. Alexander's comment:

"Big Eleven Lake in Kansas City, Kan., stocked with 8,000 fish, is ready for young Izaak Waltons. The planting of 1,500 parent fish, including about a thousand giant silver crappie, each weighing more than a pound, and 300 drum, in the lake last Thursday, completed the job of restocking.

"Dave Leahy, Director of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission; Seth Way, fish culturist for the department, and Chas. Hassig, member of the Kansas Fish and Game Commission, visited Big Eleven Lake with a truckload of fish, all for the angling sport to be enjoyed by the children of Kansas City, Kan., and Wyandotte county after the close of schools.

"The lake was opened to the children for fishing Wednesday, June 8. Fishing hours will be from 8 a. m. to 12 o'clock noon every Wednesday during the summer months.

Increase in Game Protectors

The Commission has increased its full-time force of game protectors to 34 men, an increase of some 15 since the 1947 Kansas legislature granted an increase in license fees, in order that the department could further increase law enforcement and many other activities.

The increase in the protectors force means better law enforcement. Their work is one of great importance and is not limited to enforcement of law alone. Their manifold duties involve the conducting of game surveys; the distribution of fish and game; the rescuing of fish from drying streams and lakes; the patrolling of watercourses in constant search of illegal fishing equipment and possible sources of stream pollution and many other duties.

In order that readers of FISH AND GAME might get better acquainted with the protectors and where they are located, here is an up-to-date list with counties assigned and address of each protector:

- FRED ANDERSON, R. R. 2, Atchison. County or counties—Doniphan.
- FLOYD ANDREW, 221 S. Bluff, Anthony: Clark, Comanche, Barber, Harper.
- A. W. BENANDER, 604 W. Seventh, Topeka: Shawnee, Jackson, Wabaunsee.
- E. L. BRYAN, Wakeeney: Trego, Gove, Ellis, Graham.
- JAMES BRYAN, 614 E. Myrtle, Independence: Montgomery, Labette, Cherokee.
- H. D. BYRNE, Concordia: Jewell, Republic, Mitchell, Cloud.
- JAMES CARLSON, 115 S. Tenth, Salina: Ellsworth, Saline, Dickinson, Geary.
- JOE CONCANNON, Lansing: Field Supervisor.
- MERLE CURTIS, 401 E. Second, Garnett: Coffey, Anderson, Linn.
- JOHN DEAN, 801 Rural, Emporia: Morris, Chase, Lyon, Osage.
- WALLACE FERRELL, Marysville: Washington, Marshall, Clay.
- EDWIN GEBHARD, Meade: Seward, Meade, Gray, Ford.
- CLEMENT GILLESPIE, 123 N. Fourth, Arkansas City: Elk, Chautauqua, south Cowley.
- L. E. GLOVER, Ulysses: Hamilton, Kearny, Stanton, Grant, Morton, Stevens.
- EUGENE HERD, Scott City: Logan, Wichita, Scott, Lane.
- JOHN Q. HOLMES, Garden City: Finney, Haskell.
- H. HASSELWANDER, 1206 Ellis, Wichita: Sedgwick, Butler, northern Cowley.
- LEON HOPKINS, Lincoln: Lincoln, Ottawa.
- ARTHUR JONES, Downs: Smith, Rooks, Osborne, Russell, Barton.
- ROY KIEFER, Oberlin: Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Sheridan.
- KENNETH KNITIG, Goodland: Sherman, Wallace, Greeley.
- ART KYSER, Savonburg: Allen, Bourbon, Crawford.
- PAUL LEGER, Perry: Jefferson, Leavenworth.
- ROY MCKINSEY, Holton: Riley, Pottawatomie, Nemaha.
- J. A. McNALLY, 302 N. Elm, Eureka: Greenwood, Woodson.
- OLIN MINCKLEY, Ottawa: Douglas, Johnson, Franklin, Miami.
- WAYNE PIGGOTT, St. Paul: Wilson, Neosho.
- JACK RANDALL, Larned: Ness, Rush, Hodgeman, Pawnee.
- C. E. RICHARDSON, 816 Tauramee, Kansas City: Wyandotte.
- JOHN SHAY, Kingman: Edwards, Kiowa, Stafford, Pratt, Kingman.
- JOHN SPENCE, Arrington: Brown, Atchison.
- CARL SUENRAM, Moundridge: Rice, McPherson, Marion, Reno, Harvey.
- CHARLES TOLAND, 212 S. Meridian, Wichita: Sedgwick, Butler, northern Cowley.
- GEORGE WHITAKER, Atwood: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Thomas.

Department Biennial Report Available

As required by law, the biennial report covering the activities and financial operations of this department for the two-year period ending June 30, 1948, was transmitted to Governor Frank Carlson, and is available in pamphlet form to any sportsman that might be interested. Just write the Commission, Pratt, Kan., a copy will be sent free to individuals or organizations.

The report contains a factual presentation of the department's more important and essential activities along with financial statements, etc. A careful perusal of the report will give the reader a comprehensive knowledge of conservation activities in Kansas.

The Department has come a long way in the past two years and many noteworthy accomplishments were attained in the various fields of the Commission's activities. To mention a few of these accomplishments, the Commission increased its fish-producing facilities; increased game bird production; influenced the establishing of a federal fish hatchery in Kansas; initiated a game bird habitat improvement program; expanded its law enforcement division; increased the Department's technical staff and many other things, and at the same time, operated well within its income for each of the two years and established a sizeable cash reserve to complete planned work and to serve as an operating reserve against that day when annual incomes will be reduced or an adjustment in economic conditions takes place.

Helen DeVault Resigns as Publicity Director, Fish and Game Department

Miss Helen DeVault has resigned her position as publicity director for the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, effective May 1, to devote her entire time to the management of her business established in Pratt.

Miss DeVault was widely known throughout the state because of her long-time connection with Kansas fish and game affairs. She initiated the program designed to teach conservation to the schools through the media of motion pictures. Most of her time was spent in the showing of these pictures in the schools and to civic clubs, sportsmen's clubs and other conservation-minded groups.

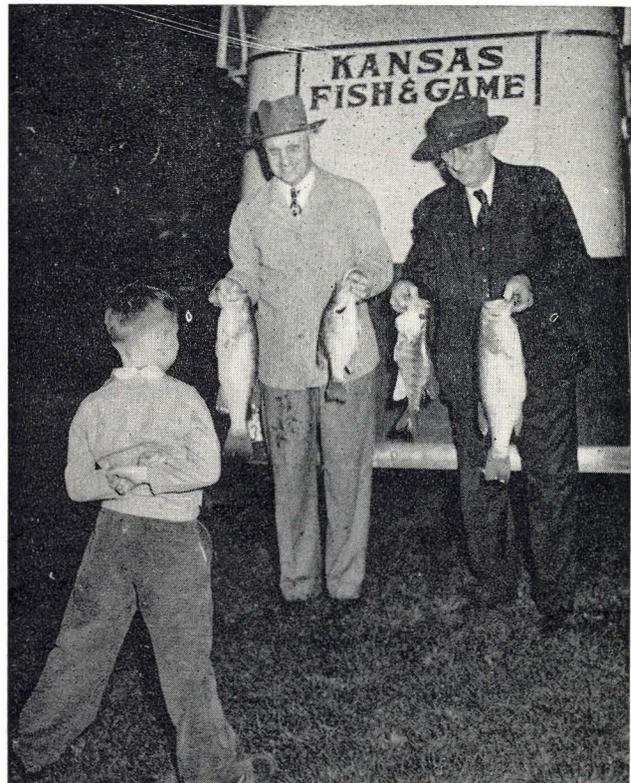
Miss DeVault holds the distinction of being the first woman state game warden in the United States. She has been connected with the fish and game department in various capacities for many years and was publicity director for the past eleven years.

New U. S. Fish Hatchery Nears Completion

A new federal fish hatchery, located at the Crawford County State Park near Farlington, Kan., is about completed and will add greatly to the production of fish, especially bass, for that area. This hatchery was started by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service before the war and then abandoned until additional funds for its completion were appropriated by the 80th congress.

The Farlington hatchery will raise bass, catfish (including channel cat) and perch. Water for the hatchery will be provided by the lake itself. A 14-inch siphon will carry water over the top of the dam and down to the hatchery.

The Fish and Wildlife Service recently reported that the future of this hatchery is threatened by a curtailment of funds in congress in the Interior Department's appropriations bill for the new biennium starting July 1, 1949. However, sufficient funds were provided for the completion of the project and it should be in operation this summer.



A youthful angler of Kansas City, Kan., gazes longingly at some of the big fish that were placed in the Big Eleven Lake at Kansas City recently by the Kansas Fish and Game Commission to restock the lake for the summer fishing pleasure of the teen-agers of that area. Holding the fish are Elmer Wilhelm, secretary of the Kansas Rod and Gun Club, Kansas City, and Chas. H. Hassig, member of the Commission from Kansas City. Photo by courtesy of Mr. Ben Shanoski, Free Lance Photographer, Kansas City, Kan.

Cheyenne Bottoms

Doubtless, many of the sportsmen of the state will be interested in the progress being made toward the completion of the Cheyenne Bottoms project, which is located in Barton county. This project, the nation's outstanding waterfowl restoration project, is being jointly financed by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Three-fourths of the cost of the project is being financed from the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife funds—funds which are derived from an excise tax on the sale of sporting arms and ammunition. Allocations from this fund are returned to the respective states on the relative basis of the area and license sales of each state to the total area and license sales of all the states, and then only to those states whose projects are approved by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The other one-fourth of the cost of the project is assumed by the Fish and Game department.

The Cheyenne Bottoms project calls for the acquisition of some 18,800 acres of land in the area, looking toward the impoundment of a lake or several lakes, with a total area of 15,000 acres of water. The water, when impounded, will be used as a migratory waterfowl hunting area, a sanctuary and nesting grounds for migratory game birds, new fishing waters and for such other recreational purposes as may be authorized by the state fish and game commission.

The first phase of the project—the acquisition of 18,710 acres of land—has been achieved and title thereto vested in the state. The cost of this phase was \$408,725.64, of which this department paid one-fourth.

The second phase of the project, that of diverting water into the basin by means of diversion dams and canals, is just getting under way. Contracts were let at a meeting of the Commission on May 6, calling for the construction of a diversion canal from Walnut creek into the basin, a distance of some three miles, as well as the bridge structures necessary on the canal. This canal is designed to maintain a water level on 11,000 acres in the basin.

This phase of the project has been slowed up considerably by the difficulty encountered in acquiring right of way for the canal and also by the fact it is necessary to have complete approval of the Fish and Wildlife officials and engineers before proceeding with any phase of the project. For example, members of the Commission met recently with officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and they suggested the diking of the basin in order to create, rather than one body of water, say four or five lakes of 3,000 to 4,000 acres each. This, the Service officials believe, should be done

in order to put into effect better control measures than would be possible under one large area of water, and as a means of reducing botulism, which often occurs in water areas that are not manageable. Thus, it was necessary that our engineers and those of the Fish and Wildlife Service agree on what was feasible to carry out the details of what they wanted.

Here again, this part of the development program will be delayed by the fact that the elements during the winter and early spring filled the Bottoms with water to the highest point since the record flood of August, 1927. This great amount of water will hinder the construction of the dikes within the area.

The third and final step in development plans calls for the diversion of water from the Arkansas river to Walnut creek—a distance of 10 or 12 miles. This work will include the erection of a large dam across the Arkansas river, the digging of water diversion canals and the building of many bridges. In order to maintain impoundment at required levels, it is necessary to divert allocated waters from the Arkansas river and Walnut creek.

The dam across the Arkansas river will be an overflow structure about four feet high and 300 feet long, set on piling and protected against undercutting by steel sheer piling.

Wilson and Company, engineers of Salina, who are in charge of the project, have estimated the cost of the final two phases of the project as being \$1,371,000.

Bear in mind that the Cheyenne Bottoms Project is no burden to Kansas taxpayers. The Fish and Game Commission has accumulated sufficient funds through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses to meet its share of project costs.

Some critics have criticized the Commission for accumulating such a sizeable cash balance and many ideas have been advanced as to spending this balance and not pile up any reserve. Some ideas are worthy, many more are not. The Commission has leaned a bit toward the conservative side to be sure that sufficient funds are on hand to insure the completion of the Cheyenne Bottoms Project and other planned projects, as well as adequately maintain the department in the face of any eventuality.

In order to share in the Pittman-Robertson fund, the state must have on hand sufficient funds to take care of the project costs from year to year, before they can receive a refund of the seventy-five percent from the federal fund.

During the fiscal year 1947, funds from the Pittman-Robertson fund allocated to Kansas amounted to \$169,584.71. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949, \$224,470.79 was allocated. All of the amounts were used in the further development of the project.

Legislature Changes Game Laws

The 1949 session of the Kansas legislature made several changes in the fish and game laws of this state, among the most important of which declared rabbits and hares game animals, provided for closed seasons for the taking of same; prohibiting the sale of certain species of fish and bullfrogs except as provided, and providing for a permit to sell privately propagated fish; and prohibiting hunting and fishing on or from any public road or railroad right of way in any private posted lake without having first obtained permission of the owner or occupant of such premises. For the information of the readers of KANSAS FISH AND GAME we are giving below a résumé of the new laws.

Section 1 of House bill No. 336 declares rabbits and hares to be wild game animals in the state of Kansas, and it shall be unlawful for any person or persons in the state to pursue, injure, take or attempt to take, trap, capture, hunt, possess, or kill any rabbit or hare except during the legal open season, which shall be from December 15 to October 15, both dates inclusive, and during such further open season as may be permitted by the rules and regulations adopted by the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission: *Provided*, That this act shall not prevent owners or legal occupants of land from killing rabbits or hares at any time on such land so owned or legally occupied: *And provided further*, That rabbits and hares may be trapped, taken or shipped, at any time, for training dogs or for coursing meets, under a permit obtained from the director of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, which permit shall be issued upon proper application.

Section 1 of House bill No. 2 says it shall be unlawful for any person or persons at any time to shoot, hunt or pursue any wild game bird or animal upon, or to fish in any posted private lake from any traveled or public road or railroad right of way that adjoins any such occupied or improved premises, without having first obtained permission of the owner or the occupant of such premises.

Section 1 of House bill No. 164 makes it unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell or offer for sale, buy or offer to buy any bullfrog, any bass, crappie, perch or catfish taken from Kansas water, or to sell or offer for sale, buy or offer to buy any bullfrog or any bass or crappie regardless of where taken, except that any person privately propagating fish or bullfrogs, may, upon securing permission in writing from the director of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, sell any fish or bullfrogs so privately propagated.

All regulations provided for in these acts shall be effective from and after July 1, 1949.

Lake Improvement

During recent months the Commission has had workmen busy at work designed to improve the fishing possibilities of the Leavenworth, Kingman and Woodson County state lakes. These lakes, because of their age, had shown some signs of deterioration as good fishing waters. The work included the draining of the lakes, the removal of the coarse, undersirable fish, the installation of fish shelters, the improvement of spawning areas, the refilling of the lakes and the restocking with fish of desirable kinds and sizes.

The work has been completed at the Leavenworth and Kingman county lakes and these two bodies of water are expected to be opened to public fishing sometime early this fall.

The work of improving the Woodson County state lake is well under way at the present time. The lake was drained in March and April. Fish seined from the lake were used to stock ponds in that area; some were placed in the new Fall River Dam and elsewhere.

In addition to improving the above-mentioned lakes, other construction work has been necessary at the Sheridan County lake, the Nemaha County lake and the Miami County lake.

At the Sheridan County lake, flood waters last summer caused considerable damage to the spillway. It cost the department \$50,000 to repair the damaged structure, but this work was completed in April and the lake is again full of water and open to public fishing.

At the Nemaha County lake, it was necessary to repair damages to the spillway caused by water cutting under the riprapping. Damage at this lake is much greater than first anticipated and will probably run considerably higher than the first estimate of \$7,500. Work on this lake is expected to be completed by the middle of the summer.

Work was started at the Miami County lake the latter part of April toward deepening of the lake to provide better fishing. Work there consists of strengthening the dikes, relocation of spillway and other improvements. Costs of improvement at this lake will run approximately \$6,500.

A contract was let on May 26 for the repair of the spillway at the Finney County State Lake, near Kalvesta.

Mud Dauber Wasps build many celled mud tubes in which spiders, paralyzed by the sting of the female wasp, are stored. In each cell one wasp egg is laid and, after hatching, the larva feeds upon the paralyzed victims.—*Oklahoma Game and Fish News.*

Cover Restoration Program

The Commission, being aware of the destruction of great quantities of game bird cover in the interest of more intensified farming and the rural electrification of many farming areas, has started a cover restoration program in the state.

The program proposes the planting of Multiflora Rose, lespedeza and red cedars in areas where other cover was destroyed or is not growing. In setting up the program, those plants which offered the maximum benefit to the landowner and to wildlife were selected.

The Multiflora Rose seems to be the most promising plant, offering almost ideal escape cover for wildlife as well as a reserve winter food supply and affording the landowner both economic and esthetic value in the form of a living stock-proof barrier, which is quite ornamental. This plant at maturity (three to six years, depending upon conditions) attains a growth of approximately six to eight feet in height. It blossoms once a year, usually in May or June, and fruits in the late fall. These fruits are small, dark-red, apple-shaped berries which adhere to the parent plant until late winter, offering a reserve winter food supply for our wildlife.

The Multiflora Rose will not spread; it does not retard adjacent plant growth; it occupies a relatively

small amount of crop land, very little more than necessary to maintain a good woven-wire fence; there is practically no maintenance necessary since it does not require trimming or the cleaning out of dead wood; and its height is not great enough to offer a problem in shading adjacent areas.

Unable to secure enough of the Multiflora seedlings, the Commission established a nursery of its own on property already owned at the quail farm near Calista, Kan. On this area, some six million Multiflora Rose seeds were fall-sowed. This spring, some two million rose seeds, fifty thousand lespedeza seed and a limited amount of Russian Olive seed were planted. From these plantings the department hopes to produce something near one million Multiflora Rose seedlings for distribution to Kansas landowners in 1950, and enough seedlings from the other species for experimental areas.

During the past few months, the department made one hundred and seventy plantings throughout the state, which include all the general soil types found in Kansas. The seedlings were given free to farmers and sportsmen interested in improving game field conditions and were distributed by the game protectors, under the supervision of Mr. Harold King, technician in charge of the cover restoration program.

It was impossible to supply the demand for the



The above picture illustrates the amount of escape cover offered to our wildlife with a living fence of Multiflora Rose, which neither man nor dog can penetrate. This fence also offers an abundance of reserve winter feed as well as a stock-proof barrier.

Multiflora Rose seedlings, but the Commission hopes to be able to take care of everyone as the supply develops, and if the areas to be planted are found suitable.

A special bulletin on this subject, designated as Bulletin No. 8, entitled "The Multiflora Rose in Farming and for Wildlife" is now available to farmers, sportsmen, state and federal agencies interested in improving game field conditions. A copy of this bulletin may be procured on request to the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, Pratt, Kan.

Game Farms

The Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission continues to operate three game bird farms. A farm near Pittsburg and another near Calista produces Bobwhite Quail exclusively. The third farm, at the Meade County State Park, is devoted to the propagation of Ringneck Pheasants. All three farms are now at full production capacities. For the information of the sportsmen of Kansas, we give you a report from each of the farms:

PHEASANT FARM: Mr. Harry D. Smith, superintendent, reports as follows: A total of 20,000 birds were released in 1948, prior to October 6. After the 1948 hunting season, a total of 800 birds were released. These were birds that were not mature enough for release prior to the season. In addition, we released a total of 960 of our old breeders, for a grand total of 21,760 birds that were liberated in the wild during the past year.

In addition, we kept at the farm 1,100 hens and 180 cock birds that were raised in 1948, to be used for breeding purposes.

Our first setting this year was made on April 18, with 2,216 eggs set. They were due to hatch on May 14. The second setting of 4,032 eggs was made April 25. The third setting of more than 5,000 eggs was made May 2. Starting May 14, eggs were set every Monday with a hatch due to come off each Saturday. The birds are usually liberated at the age of seven weeks.

Mr. Smith had this to say about this year's outlook: "Our breeders started laying later this spring than last year, possibly due to the late arrival of springlike weather. Egg production this year is above that of last year. We have more breeders and consequently should get more eggs.

"We have had more predators this year than any year since I have been here at the farm. One of our employees here at the hatchery has trapped or killed over 150 hawks, 50 great horned owls and 17 coyotes from September until now. It seemed that all hawks

wanted to be killers this past winter. Coopers and falcons usually do the most damage during the summer and fall when we have young birds, but they are not hard on the adult pheasants. There were also more eagles around this past winter than ever before."

PITTSBURG QUAIL FARM: Mr. Charles Troxel, superintendent, reports as follows: "In 1948 we started the season here with 340 pairs of quail breeders. These were later culled down to 320 pairs. During the hatching season, a total of 27,551 eggs were set. From this number, 21,631 birds were hatched, for a season's hatching average of 86.4 percent.

"We started the 1948 liberations on July 13 and ended up on October 26, with 15,800 birds stocked in the eastern third of Kansas. The winter holdover was approximately 2,000 birds. I used around forty pairs for replacement breeders to start the 1949 season and liberated the balance of 1,740 birds this spring, for a grand total of 17,540 birds liberated in the wild. Winter losses from various causes and reasons took care of the difference.

"The 1949 hatching season is under way with 309 pairs of breeders. The first setting of 1,738 eggs was made May 2. The cold weather has put us behind about a week or so this year.

"Birds in the wild are mating and pairing off now (written May 3). From all reports I have had, I don't believe that the sleet and severe winter storms got all of the birds in eastern Kansas. The hunters and sportsmen of this area did a great job in getting out during the storms of the winter and distributing feed to the birds."

CALISTA QUAIL FARM: Mr. Byron Walker, superintendent, reported as follows: "In the hatching season of 1948, a total of 20,911 eggs were set. Of this number 2,581 were infertile and 14,695 birds were hatched. We had bad luck here with electricity during the hatching period which cut down on the hatching average considerably. We now have an auxiliary power plant for emergencies.

"We liberated 8,660 birds during the 1948 season with 690 more being liberated this spring. We kept 920 birds through the winter for the Pittsburg farm and 712 birds were kept for breeders this spring.

"I made the first setting of 1,350 eggs on May 5 this year, which is better than last year's first setting. I believe the season is starting good. Our worst hazards here are vermin."

Let us have the news of your clubs and meetings. We will try and get in as much as possible in the KANSAS FISH AND GAME. We believe in service, and we want your assistance and cooperation.



Here's as pretty a string of channel catfish as you will see in a long time. They were caught recently by Mr. Ora Carter, of Lakin, in Lake McKinney, near that city. He caught them on a fly rod, using worms for bait. The nine fish weighed 47 pounds. Shown holding the fish with Mr. Carter (right) is his fishing partner, Doctor Dietrich, also of Lakin.

Reports from Game Protectors

L. E. GLOVER — Hamilton, Kearny, Stanton, Grant, Morton, Stevens counties

Fishing at Lake McKinney, near Lakin, has been exceptionally good this spring. Many nice catches of channel cats with many 6, 8, 10 and 12 pounders. Fishing on north fork of Cimarron in Grant county is beginning to get better. Most of fishing done at Lake McKinney, Meade State Lake, Clark County State Lake and at Two Buttes Lake in Colorado. The Independent Hardware Store of Garden City is holding a contest for biggest channel catfish caught in Lake McKinney, Scott County State Lake and Finney County State Lake. At present writing, Charlie Walker of Ulysses has top honors with one tipping the scales at 17¼ pounds. Lemoine Davis of Ulysses is in the running with one weighing 12 pounds four ounces. Looks to me like the Multiflora Rose plants are doing awfully well in my district. Many farmers are going to want more of the plants this spring. Farmers report seeing many pheasant nests while doing spring plowing. Also the destroying of many nests by plowing and late burning of weeds. Heaviest concentration of pheasants in my district is along the Cimarron river, north fork of Cimarron, Big Bear creek, and Arkansas river. However, in Kearny, Stevens and Grant counties you can find pheasants anywhere you go in goodly numbers. Morton, Stanton and Hamilton counties have pheasants and in places, lots of them. Nice bunches of prairie chicken have been reported to me through the sand hills between Lakin and Ulysses. Bunches of forty

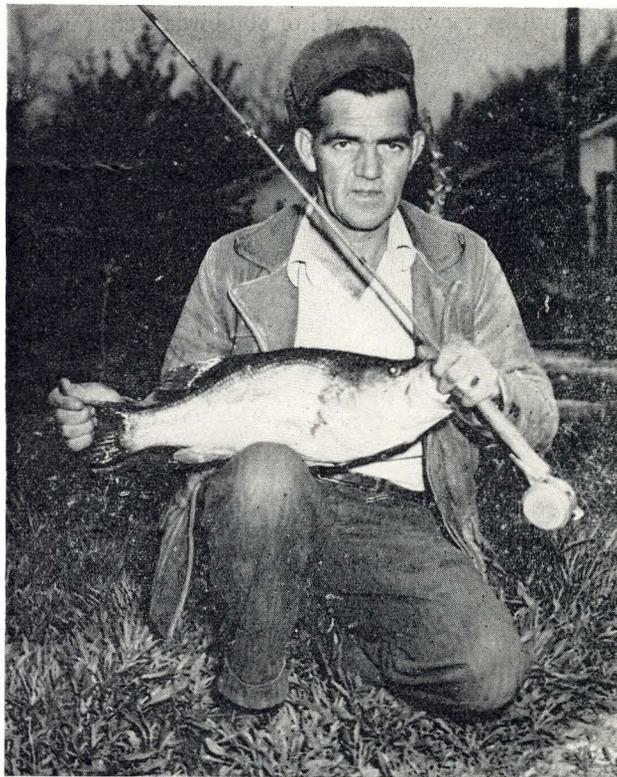
to several hundred. Also prairie chicken in the sand hills south of Hugoton.

JOHN SPENCE—Brown and Atchison counties

Fishing has been pretty good in my district this spring. Ice apparently hurt the fishing in the Delaware river this spring. When the ice went out, it took all the brush and stumps with it. Albert Hinson, of Atchison, caught an 8 pound 6 ounce catfish in this river. The fish copped the weekly catfish prize offered by Tate Oil Co., of Atchison. M. W. Raney, of Horton, has been having good luck catching crappie in the city lake at Horton. August Kniessel, George Kniessel, Ulbert Thorton and Byron Nyfaler, all of Hiawatha, are catching lots of channel catfish in Walnut creek east of Reserve. The Atchison county sportsmen have reorganized their fish and game club with Roy Brink as president. Furlman Rogers of Atchison is proudly exhibiting a picture of a nice string of channel catfish he caught.

JOHN Q. HOLMES—Finney and Haskell counties

Fishing in my district has never been better. Crappie fishing has been good at Finney County State Lake. Good catches have been made by Harry Oswald



Roger Braeken, of Liberal, made the front page of the Southwest Daily Times at Liberal recently, with this 7½-pound bass, which he caught at the Clark County State Lake on a 9-foot fly rod. Photo courtesy of Joe Cannon, Staff Photographer, Southwest Daily Times.

and two sons, John and Harry, Jr. Ray Densfield, secretary of our Finney County Sportsmen Association, has caught his limit of large-size crappie. Col. Earl Barton, our auctioneer, has taken several large channel cats from Lake McKinney, including 9, 12 and 15 pounders. J. R. Baldwin also caught some big channels, the largest of which weighed 15 pounds. All of the above fishermen are from Garden City. Ora Carter, of Lakin, caught seven channels that weighed 54 pounds. There is more water in the Finney County State Lake and Lake McKinney than I have ever seen before. Much interest being shown in the catfish contest conducted by Independent Hardware Store of Garden City. The pheasant crop is above normal. The birds wintered well. With the help of many members of the Finney County Game Association, feed was supplied them during the winter by trucks, jeeps, airplanes and train crews dumped feed along the tracks between Garden City and Scott City. This was during the severe snow storms we had. I found no dead birds nor heard of any that died from cold or starvation. We have lost some quail along the river where we could not get to them on account of the heavy snow, but not many were lost. Lester McCoy and others report seeing many nice coveys around Holcomb and I have had other encouraging reports on quail crop. We don't have many rabbits in my district any more. We do have too many coyotes. Roy Sloan, who has a pack of hounds, reports catching seventy-eight coyotes during past winter. Pete Smith, farmer, south of Garden City, reports he caught sixty-five during the winter with his hounds. The Lee Green boys have also caught many.

PAUL LEGER—Jefferson and Leavenworth counties

Although rains, cold weather, muddy water have retarded the usual fishing spirit, a lot of fishermen have been out. Fairly good catches of channel catfish have been reported along the Delaware and Kaw rivers, as well as from Stranger creek in Leavenworth county. The Multiflora Rose plantings in both Leavenworth and in Jefferson counties are coming along in fine shape showing a growth of from four to as much as eight inches. Farmers are very well pleased with this project and sportsmen as well as farmers are showing much interest in these plantings. A yearling buck deer was killed on Highway 24, three miles west of Perry, in Jefferson county, shortly after midnight on May 21. The deer met its death when it attempted to cross the highway in front of a truck. Although the truck was overturned by the collision with the deer, the driver escaped with minor injuries. The driver reported that two deer jumped in front of the truck. Farmers had reported seeing two deer as they grazed

in the wheat fields near the old Delaware river bed. These are the only deer reported in this area for several years.

JOHN C. DEAN—Chase, Morris, Lyon, Osage counties

The quail in my district went through the winter in fine shape and should show an increase if they have good hatching season. Prairie chickens are making a nice comeback in each of my counties. Early fishing was very good, especially at Lyon County State Park. Lots of channel cats caught weighing over 10 pounds. Largest reported to date weighed 19 pounds. One of unusual things seen in my district was 36 Golden Plover feeding in a pasture in Chase county, six miles west of Matfield Green. Upland Plover seem to be holding their own. Cottontail rabbits scarce in part of my district and plentiful in others. There just aren't any jack rabbits.

MERLE CURTIS—Linn, Anderson and Coffey counties

The rainy weather has hampered fishing in my district but many fine fish have been caught. We have also been hampered somewhat by the worms on elm trees falling into the streams and while they were plentiful, fishing was very poor. The last three weeks,



Art Fesler, formerly of Sedan, now of Wichita, and his son-in-law, Charles Hoppe, of Sedan, fished the Big Caney river near Hewins to land the four big catfish shown above. The largest weighed thirty pounds. Photo courtesy of The Sedan Times-Star.

night lines have really produced large fish on the Marais des Cygnes and Pottawatomie rivers. The Neosho has yet to reach its peak.

The strip pit area in Linn county is fast becoming one of the heaviest week-end fishing spots in eastern Kansas. Due to the easy accessibility for boats, fishermen from Kansas City, Kansas, and Missouri are using this area for their week-end trips. This area adjoins the Marais des Cygnes river and this makes it possible for any kind of fishing found in Kansas. The Kansas Fish and Game Commission has stocked most of these pits that are suitable for game fish and plans to stock five more of the pits this fall. These pits average approximately one-half mile long, 75 yards wide with a water depth of 40 feet.

The crappie have really been hitting at the Garnett city lake all month. It is nothing unusual to see strings of 10 to 14 crappie weighing up to one and three-quarter pounds. This lake is drawing fishermen on the week-ends from Lawrence, Topeka, Ottawa and Kansas City with most fishermen having good luck.

JACK RANDALL—Ness, Rush, Hodgeman, Pawnee counties

Several of the fishermen at Larned have had good luck fishing this spring. Charlie Williamson has landed catfish weighing 8 and 9 pounds. Orville Johnson landed one weighing 7½ pounds. Roy Clarkson is the champion thus far with a 10½ pounder. All these were caught in the Pawnee.

LEON HOPKINS—Lincoln and Ottawa counties

Fishing is good on the Saline river and it is open most every place to fishing if permission is first asked. Some very nice channel cats, ranging from 3 to 10 pounds, are being caught at Shady Bend. A party from Plainville recently took 14 there, the largest weighing 10 pounds. A 12-pound yellow cat was caught at Lincoln on a bank line and a 21-pound yellow cat was caught on pole and line below the Lincoln dam.

Buffalo Herd on Increase

The herd of buffalo which the Commission has started at the game refuge near Garden City and at the Meade County State Park is showing a nice increase. At Garden City, the herd numbers 77, including 18 baby calves, and John Q. Holmes, game protector out there, reports they wintered well. A herd of 22 are being cared for at the Meade park. Also at that park are 34 deer and two cow elk.

There are 20,000 living species of fish.

News of Sportsmen's Clubs

Harvey County Sportsmen Form Association

Sportsmen of Harvey county met recently at Newton and organized a Harvey County Sportsmen's Association. Mr. P. J. McNulty was elected president. Other officers chosen were Lawrence Koelling, vice-president; and Earl Henry, secretary-treasurer. More than twenty charter members were obtained at the initial meeting and officers reported that the association will seek to enroll a membership of 1,000 in Harvey county.

Junior Fish and Game Group Organized for County Youth in Leavenworth County

A Junior Leavenworth County Fish and Game Development Association was recently organized at Leavenworth. Officers chosen included Robert E. Lee, president; Harold Burre, vice-president; Eugene Kramer, secretary, and William Berg, treasurer. The new organization, open to the youth of Leavenworth county, will work in close coöperation with the larger game association, which has done much to conserve and protect the wildlife of Leavenworth county. They plan to hold meetings every two months. This type of a youth organization might well be organized in other counties in the interests of conservation.

City, Sportsmen to Create Kiddie Fishing Paradise

The Bourbon County Hunting and Fishing Association working in close coöperation with the city officials of Fort Scott, Kan., are creating a "fishing paradise" for the children of Fort Scott. The Fern lake in Gunn Park in Fort Scott has been closed to all until sometime in June, when a special celebration will mark the opening of the new fishing grounds for the youngsters fifteen years of age and under. Fishing will be allowed one day a week only for the children of that age group. Prizes will be awarded opening day to the children for the largest fish, the smallest fish and other classes. Officers of the Bourbon County Association are Lowell Van Brunt, Garland, president; Howard Dawson, Bronson, vice-president; Garland Atkins, Fort Scott, secretary-treasurer. Other members of the board of directors are Pete Jones, Uniontown; Maurice Quick, Redfield; V. M. Headrick, Hiattville; Cliff Hall, Devon; Earl Stewart, Fulton; Walter Zimmerman, Mapleton; Frank Cook, Fort Scott; and Byrl Gaither, Fort Scott.



A good day's catch! These big cats were caught by Mr. W. B. Faught, of Natoma, Kan., on May 14, 1949, in the Saline river at Lincoln, Kan. One weighed 26½ pounds and two weighed 15 pounds each. He also caught a nine-pounder the same day. Mr. Faught used a Calcutta rod with Bronson reel and Ashaway 35-pound test line, with live shiner minnows. Mr. Faught, who is an arden fisherman, is mayor of Natoma.

Sportsmen Release Pheasants in Cherokee County

The Cherokee County Sportsmen's Fish and Game Association have undertaken a program of stocking pheasants in that county. Twenty-five pheasants were released by members of the Association during the first two weeks of April, it was announced by Paul Webb, chairman of the pheasant committee of the Association. The release of the pheasants is a part of a long-range program, the goal of which is to have an abundance of bird life, including quail, waterfowl and song birds, as well as pheasants, according to Mr. Webb. The fish and game department has pledged its support and coöperation to the Cherokee County Association in the program and will furnish a number of birds from the Meade pheasant farm for liberation next fall.

The Herring lays 3,000,000 eggs, but—we never hear about her on Mother's Day. — *Maryland Monthly News Flash.*

Waverly Sportsmen Sponsor Blue Gill Day

Sportsmen of Waverly and vicinity held their annual Blue Gill Day on May 16, for the youngsters under 16 years of age who are interested in fishing. This outing was held at Reading State Park, with 21 adults and 64 youngsters attending. Prizes were awarded for the various age groups on most fish caught and the largest fish caught. Steve Farrow, age 6, won the prize for the largest fish, a channel cat 14 inches long which he landed by himself. The Waverly sportsmen have sponsored this even for several years and it has been highly successful with much interest on the part of youngsters and oldsters alike. If a town of 600 population can take a day a year to helping the youngsters on outings such as this, why cannot the larger cities do likewise? After all, youngsters are the sportsmen of tomorrow.

Johnson County Sportsmen Reorganize

Sportsmen of Johnson county recently reorganized, according to the Olathe *Johnson County Democrat*. The Sportsmen's Conservation Association is the name of the new civic organization known originally as the "Sportsmen's Club." Johnson county was divided into four sections and a director was chosen from each one of the divisions, plus three directors chosen at large, making a total of seven on the board. Directors are George Whiteman, Harry Strickler, Jimmy Manning, Carl Colemayer, Joe Shears and Max Marshall. One district was not represented at the initial meeting of the new organization. Officers were to be announced following a meeting on May 24.

New Hatchery at Meade State Park

The Commission now has in operation an additional fish hatchery. This new unit, built in conjunction with the Meade County State Park, near Meade, Kan., is strictly a black bass hatchery. It has been adequately staffed and is prepared to produce bass fish in sufficient quantities to meet the present state-wide demand for this popular game fish.

FISHING HINT: Simply be in the right place at the right time with the right bait.

Birds are not color blind, and can see most of the colors man can see.

Starlings were introduced in the U. S. about 1890.

Arrests—April, 1949

NAME AND ADDRESS	OFFENSE	OFFICER	FINE
Jack Perry, Atwood	Fishing without license	Whitaker	\$12.50
Leo Betzold, Scott City	Reckless driving in state park	Herd	30.00
C. R. Beasley, Blue Rapids	Illegal fishing	Ferrell	20.15
Edward Gorsuch, Joplin, Mo.	Fishing without license	Bryan, Bryan	15.00
Roman Kimpler, Ellinwood	Out-season hunting	Jones, Suenram	31.75
A. L. Day, Hoisington	Fishing without license	Jones	16.00
Wm. C. Redding, Wakeeney	Fishing without license	Bryan	17.50
Bill Love, Independence	Fishing without license	Bryant, Piggott	9.30
Richard Dunfield, Kansas City, Kan.	Fishing without license	LeGer	9.00
Albert Wilson, Kansas City, Kan.	Fishing without license	Curtis	7.50
George McLaughlin, Kansas City, Kan.	Fishing without license	Curtis	7.50
Frank Donner, Great Bend	Taking undersized fish	Jones	20.00
Jim Kobb, Great Bend	Fishing without license	Jones	12.50
Zula Kobb, Great Bend	Fishing without license	Jones	12.50
Eugene Brokart, Great Bend	Fishing without license	Jones	10.00
Franklin J. Schmidt, Montezuma	Fishing without license	Gebhard	15.00
Tommy Ford, Kaw City, Okla.	Fishing without license	Gillespie	17.40
James Snook, Mulberry	Fishing without license	Kyser	10.00
Charles A. Slater, Osage City	Fishing without license	Dean	9.00
Howard L. Payne, Osage City	Fishing without license	Dean	9.00
Edgar Greenlee, Scott City	Destroying state property	Herd	25.00
Harry Castor, Ulysses	Out-season hunting	Glover	40.70
Robert Wonder, Horton	Fishing without license	LeGer	8.00
Thomas Bell, Wichita	Fishing without license	Andrew, Hasselwander	10.00
Robert Patterson, Garden City	Out-season hunting	Glover	31.25
Clyde Bruce, Atchison	Possess short channel cat	Spence	12.70
Russell Friend, Wichita	Fishing without license	Hasselwander	19.15
Irvin E. Cope, Wichita	Fishing without license	Hasselwander, Andrew	24.15
Bill Robertson, Baxter Springs	Fishing without license	J. Bryan	11.50
Eugene Pettyjohn, Neodesha	Fishing without license	Bryan, Piggott	10.00
Robert Cox, Neodesha	Fishing without license	Bryan, Piggott	10.00
Herman Johnson, Neodesha	Fishing without license	Bryan, Piggott	10.00
K. M. Barr, Wellington	Operating illegal minnow seine	Andrew, Toland, Gillespie	17.50
Grover Osborn, Wichita	Fishing without license	Andrew, Toland, Hasselwander, Gillespie	12.50
Pete Randall, Baxter Springs	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Piggott, Concannon	11.00
Thomas Hammick, Manhattan	Out-season fishing	J. Bryan, Piggott, Concannon	11.00
W. B. Grass, Dixon, Mo.	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Piggott, Concannon	11.00
Joseph Adams, Baxter Springs	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Piggott, Concannon	11.00
Fred Bronson, Kansas City, Mo.	Fishing without license	Randall	8.00
John Cook, Caprock, N. Mex.	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Piggott, Concannon	15.00
Lewis Wintholtz, Collyer	Out-season hunting	E. L. Bryan	77.50
James Arnhold, Hays	Fishing without license	E. L. Bryan	12.50
Dan Arnhold, Hays	Fishing without license	E. L. Bryan	12.50
Allan B. Cannon, Independence	Using fish trap	J. Bryan, Piggott	19.05
Earl Rubendall, Norcatour	Fishing without license	Kiefer	12.50
Joe Schreiber, Hoisington	Illegal hunting	Jones	25.00
Ward Martin, Dighton	Illegal hunting, out-season	Holmes	25.00
Winston Clark, Dighton	Out-season hunting	Holmes	25.00
Fred Sessin, Ellis	Fishing without license	E. L. Bryan	10.75
R. W. Stogdill, Wichita	Fishing without license	Hasselwander	14.15
Curtis Jones, Jr., Oxford	Fishing without license	Andrew, Gillespie	10.00
Jimmy Owens, Oxford	Fishing without license	Andrew, Gillespie	10.00
Donald Owens, Oxford	Illegal fishing	Andrew, Gillespie	17.50
Russell Maxson, Coffeyville	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Concannon	9.90
Jack Wayne Gilstrap, Coffeyville	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Concannon	9.90
Charles Bond, Coffeyville	Fishing without license	J. Bryan, Concannon	9.90
Howard Rasberry, Leavenworth	Fishing without license	LeGer, Spence	11.70
Walter Langford, Jr., Bonner Springs	Fishing without license	LeGer	16.70
James O. Stevens, Hutchinson	Fishing without license	M. E. Ramsey (Fed. Agt.)	9.65

You Don't Have to Leave Home to Have Fun with Your Fly Rod

By DICK HEDGES, Wichita, Kan.

Our state of Kansas would, I suppose, be called a poor fishing state—not to be classed with Minnesota, Wisconsin and Maine; or Colorado, Idaho or the Northwest. We have no swift mountain streams filled with trout or great natural lakes teeming with Northerners, Muskies or Walleyes. But right here at home we can have a lot of fun with a fly rod.

There is hardly a place in the state but where, within a few miles, is to be found a quiet little stream, state or county built lake, that will furnish a lot of sport.

You are probably passing up a good bet when you pass by that little creek that runs close to your town. A quiet little stream it is wending its way through the prairie, maybe its banks lined with trees, or in the extreme west, hardly a tree in sight, yet where that little trickle of water widens out into a deep clear pool you will find fish for your fly rod. In fact so plentiful have they become that all limits as to size and number have been taken off of crappie, sun perch and bluegills; and these are to be found in almost every stream and lake in the state. Also in these streams and lakes are bass, both small and large mouth, that will take your fly.

But I want to talk about the panfish which are so plentiful, and which with a light fly rod can give you a world of sport. The rock bass, generally referred to as sun perch as they are called in Kansas, are to be found everywhere, and readily take a fly, small popping bugs, rubber bugs, or fly and spinner combination. These fish, while not large (though I have taken them weighing one-half to three-quarters or even a pound) put up a fight on light tackle that is not to be sneezed at. Bluegills and crappie, while primarily a lake fish, are to be found in most of the deep pools of our little streams and readily take flies.

Now I don't mean that every trip we make means a big string of fish, but I do mean nearly every locality in the state of Kansas has little streams and lakes that will furnish sport and fish for the fellow who will take the trouble to fish them; for the fellow who will quit gazing at the mountains while he stumbles over molehills at his feet; for the fellow who will quit longing for the far away when there are plenty of panfish in his own back yard.

Now, I am just an ordinary guy who likes to fish. I fish hard, catch a few fish and have a lot of fun. Again I say "You don't have to leave home to have fun with your fly rod." So, the next time you feel down in the mouth and the clouds have all turned gray, just grab your fly rod, jump into your car and run out to that little stream or lake that is close by and you'll have fun and a string of tasty panfish. The sky will be blue again and you will have a feeling within that "God is in His Heavens and all is right with the world."

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With fishpoles and lunches they
drove away,
My little son and his father to-
day.
I watched through a rainbow of
happy tears,
Saw life unfold down the vista of
years,
No boy could ever turn out very
bad
Who'd studied life with a Fisher-
man Dad.

By LETA M. BURDICK,
Maryland Monthly News Flashes.