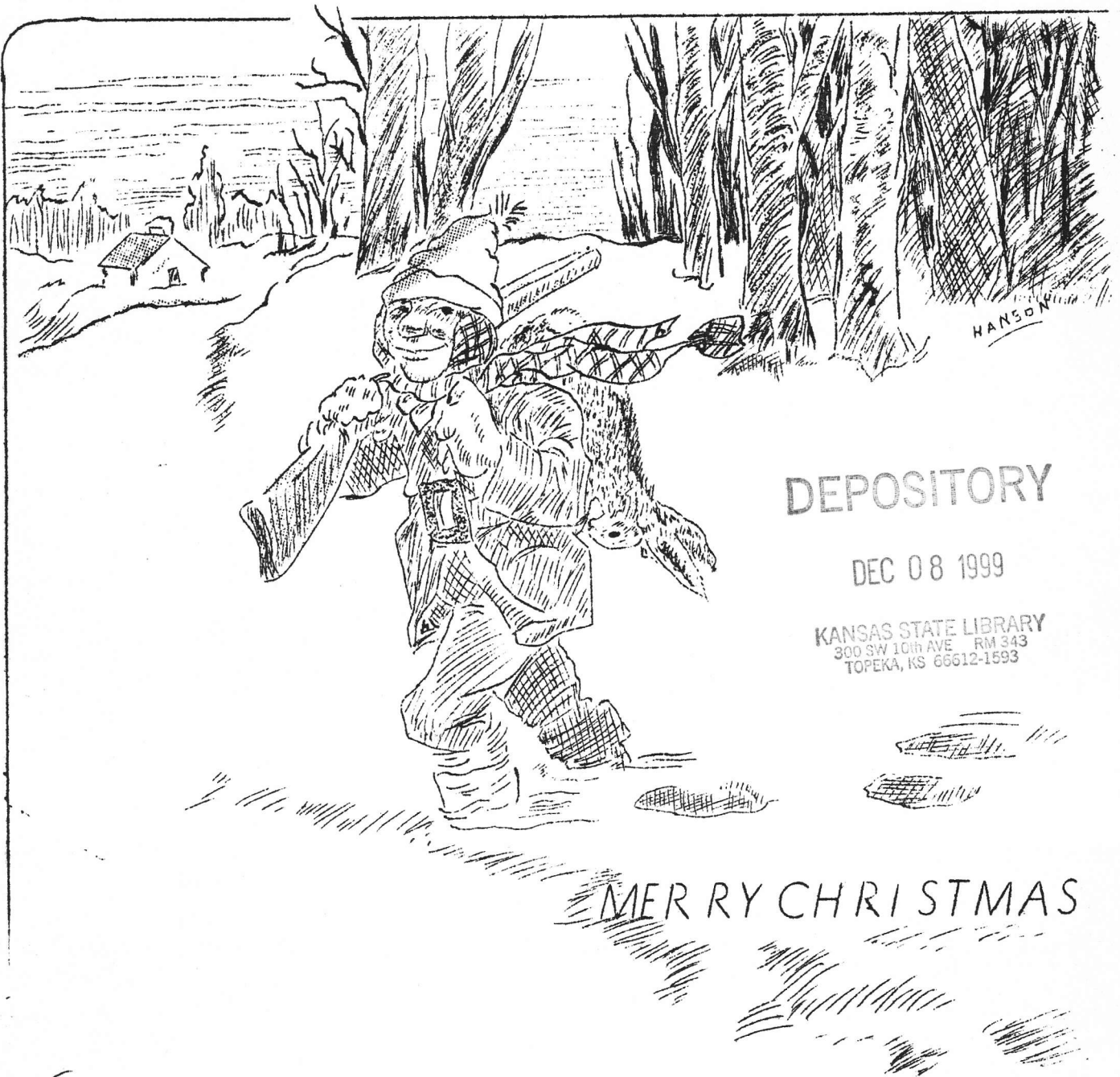


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FORESTRY, FISH & GAME COMMISSION
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K.C. BECK



KANSAS FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

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Belle Wilson. . . Stenographer Louise Dowling . . Stenographer

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QUAIL FARMS

Seth Way . . . Fish Culturist Dan RameyGame Supt.
Leo Brown Biologist L. Sutherland..Ass't.Game Supt.

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Jack Nester, Jr. District 2 Marysville, Kansas
Brice Rezeau District 3 Garnett, Kansas
Merle M. Allen District 4 Eureka, Kansas
Wayne F. Piggott District 5 Chetopa, Kansas
Chester Yowell District 6 Wichita, Kansas
H. D. Byrne District 7 Concordia, Kansas
George Wallerius District 8 Salina, Kansas
Raymond Davidson District 9 Greensburg, Kansas
Cy W. Graham District 10 Colby, Kansas
Howard Talbott District 11 Leoti, Kansas
Joe J. Gallivan District 12 Ensign, Kansas

SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR

K. C. Beck Hutchinson, Kansas

PARK SUPERINTENDENTS

J. L. Hustin . . . Butler County State Park Augusta
W. I. Thomas . . . Crawford County State Park Pittsburg
C. R. Ridgway . . . Leavenworth County State Park Tonganoxie
John Carlton . . . Meade County State Park Meade
Sidney Baxter . . . Neosho County State Park St Paul
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MONTHLY BULLETIN
FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
PRATT, KANSAS
DECEMBER -- 1938

* * *

On the eighth of November, over 700,000 voters in Kansas cast their ballots to select from among the thousands of office seekers who wished to fill the various county and state offices, a man to fill the highest and most honorable office in their power to give one of their fellow citizens, that of Governor of Kansas. For this high honor, their decision was for the Honorable Payne Ratner of Parsons, Kansas. Never having had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Ratner, but having read among his campaign speeches and promises as published in the newspapers, his promise to take the Forestry, Fish and Game Department out of politics. I congratulate him. This, I am sure will meet the hearty approval of the sportsmen of Kansas. It has been obvious to all of the purchasers of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses, that this Department has been more or less a political football of both parties since its organization. Only during one administration has there been an exception made to this rule, I refer to the appointment of the late Prof. L. L. Dyche of the University of Kansas, who, while not the first warden to hold this position, can sincerely be referred to, as the father of the present Forestry, Fish and Game Department. Prof. Dyche was a man whose qualifications and ability were never questioned by anyone. In this one instance political considerations were laid aside and the best qualified man selected for the place. The promise of Governor Elect Ratner, will not meet the approval of our politicians, but will be hailed with joy by those who foot the bill. It will be with reluctance that they will relinquish this juicy patronage plum. While most of the wardens appointed from time to time as the political color of the administrations have changed, were gentlemen and sportsmen, this has not always been true as to their being followers to the sport of hunting or fishing, as there are instances of appointees never having been such, let alone ever having been active in the study of wildlife conservation or restoration. Of course, after having been the recipient of this juicy political plum as a rule there has been shown a semblance of activity, which often has taken the form of costly and detrimental experiments for the Department. Section 18 of our State Fish and Game Laws reads as follows: "The Governor shall select and appoint as Fish and Game Warden (the warden is also secretary of the Commission), a person who shall be a citizen of the State of Kansas, having experience, special training and skill in all matters pertaining to

fish and game and fur bearing animals." In addition to having the qualifications as specified in Section 18 of our Fish and Game Laws, the warden should be a man having executive ability, one who is sincerely interested in conserving our wildlife resources, not alone from the view point of our sportsmen but from the problem as seen by the farmer on whose lands our upland game must be produced. It is becoming more evident each year that nature alone cannot supply the necessary game for our increasing number of sportsmen. It must be obvious to all that a constructive program must be brought about which will be mutually satisfactory to both the sportsmen and the landowner or farmer, a program that is built on sound principles and whose chief and only considerations are for our wildlife and not that of political patronage. It must be obvious to all who have given a thought to the condition of our wildlife situation in Kansas that men to qualify are scarce, while there are men as well as women that have given our wildlife problem some thought and attention, many of them lack executive ability, those who have made a careful study of same are comparatively few. In regard to district wardens, it is a well known fact that while occasionally there have been district wardens appointed that have had natural ability for this work, it is a fact the rule has been that it takes one to two years to train and develop district wardens, then to dismiss them on account of political changes and appoint an entirely new force to be trained cannot help but be detrimental and retard progress. There can be no incentive for a newly appointed warden to study and develop himself in this work of conservation with the possibility of the political ax staring him in the face at every election. An adequate warden force composed of high class men is a perfect link between the Fish and Game Department and the public. Its purpose is educational rather than punitive. The game warden of the future, will and must have the qualifications for leadership. He must have a sound knowledge of wildlife and wildlife habits. He will take pride in his job, command respect and be a good mixer. He must be plenty tough to deal with poachers and other hard boiled offenders. He will be expected to handle hard luck, first offenders and border line cases with tact. If the warden force operates as it should, well considered wildlife management programs can become effective without wholesale arrests, simply because the public has learned to respect and cooperate with the men in the field. On the other hand, brilliant game management policies will fail with consequent money and wildlife lost, if the wardens do not measure up to the proper standard. So here is to you Governor Ratner the well wishes of 250,000 Kansas sportsmen who believe that you will give them a break, by fulfilling your promise to take the Department out of politics.

* * *

* * *

Eleven million horses running wild over the hills cannot pull a rubber tired baby buggy to town unless there is a harness to hook them to the load, likewise, eleven million sportsmen in this country, and 36,000 scattered sportsmen groups, should have some kind of harness to band them together to exert a united influence for the good of wildlife.

* * *

To us and many trappers and hunters throughout Kansas, the coyote is a living emblem of lonely places. We have seen him in the blackness of the night on a nearby hill, only to vanish at our approach, we have heard his haunting voice, when the rest of the world was still. We have hunted him futilely and wondered at his wisdom and cunning, and at last have come to give him a certain measure of respect. Whether the coyote should be given the status of vermin or game is a question that has not yet been satisfactorily answered. Those who hunt him with hounds or trap him, consider him a sporting animal, and credit him a worthy match for the best of them, so why not respect him as a worthy antagonist instead of driving him into a ring to be slaughtered. Why not be a sport? - Francis Davis, Long Island, Kansas.

* * *

The wife said, when her husband gave her a new skunk coat for Christmas, " To think such a beautiful coat should come from such a low smelling animal."
The husband replied, " My dear, I don't expect thanks but I do demand respect."

* * *

Make a practice of asking the farmer on whose land you are going to hunt, to go with you. If he cannot go, ask the farmer's boy. The chances are you will receive an invitation to return there to hunt, if this simple courtesy is shown.

* * *

On Saturday evening, November 12, between the hours of five and six, an airplane Air Arrow Sport 18505, from the Municipal airport at Wichita, piloted by Melvin Wheeler of the Stearman Aircraft of that city, thought that the wild ducks were spending too much of their time on the Santa Fe Lake near Augusta, which is closed to hunters. Thinking he would remedy this so the ducks would scatter and settle on neighboring ponds where shooting is allowed, he takes his little old Air Arrow and proceeds to business by swooping down over Santa Fe Lake and then over the City Lake at Augusta, giving the ducks a touch of high life, then back again to Santa Fe Lake putting the fear of modern progress into those that might have thought the danger was over. His efforts were successful as to scaring the ducks into fits, but un-

fortunately for him, the number of the plane was taken by Warden Lewis Burrows and given to the Superintendent of Santa Fe Lake. The Superintendent hastened to Wichita and traced this pilot and plane, with the result that Mr. Melvin Wheeler was taken before United States Government Airway Service Inspector and plead guilty to flying within less than 600 feet of a Public Recreation point. Since this was Mr. Wheeler's first offence, and having plead guilty, he was grounded for 6 months and will receive the minimum fine \$ 500.00. Superintendent Hustin, says that planes now are flying so high you must have high powered glasses to see their numbers.

* * *

"It is better to give than to lend--and it costs about the same."-Gibbs

* * *

Trappers desiring to obtain top prices for their furs, should prepare pelts carefully before selling. Several simple rules are given here, and if followed will bring greater returns:

Dry skins in a cool, airy place, never in the sun or by the fire.
Never use salt or any preparation for curing the pelts.
Skin each kind of pelt in the manner it is supposed to be skinned, following the method established by the manufacturing trade.
Never cut off heads, except rabbits.
Tails and legs of muskrats, opossum and rabbits should be cut off.
Never over stretch, this thins the fur and it appears poor.
Get a square effect on badger and raccoon. This is done by stretching and not by trimming.
Feet and claws should be left on fox and coyote.

* * *

The Fish and Game Commission have purchased a house for the Superintendent of Santa Fe Lake. Also the roads at the Lake are being resurfaced. These were very necessary improvements. Mr. Huston, the Superintendent of this Lake is receiving a great deal of attention, some of which is undesirable, as on the night of November 3, a young tornado visited him taking the refreshment stand, bath house and some of the very necessary little buildings, as well as over turning 15 sailboats and making kindling wood of them.

* * *

The season for the trapping of our furbearers opened December 1 and will close January 31 inclusive. Badger, beaver and otter are on the protected list and it will be unlawful to trap or have same in your possession. Skunk, civet and opossum seem to be holding their own all over the State. There is a noticeable decrease in muskrats in some districts, while in others the usual number are in evidence depending apparently very much on water conditions. Mink are becoming very

scarce in most parts of the State, while raccoon do not seem to be in sufficient numbers to satisfy both the coon hunters that hunt them with dogs for the sport, and the trapper who hunts them for their fur. As to prices, the early reports are, that skunk will be some higher with coyote, opossum, civet, raccoon and mink at last year's prices if not lower.

* * *

"I used to wonder why the insects live
Why all the countless creatures dumb were made;
Why birds pour out their melody and give
So much rapture to their thankless trade.
But now I think they serve God's plan,
They live to make life bearable for man."
-Edgar A. Guest

* * *

It isn't logical to believe that wildlife has any better producing machinery than the natural habitat. The native equipment for production of game, fur and fish, is the land and what grows on it. That is the equipment we wreck and then try to substitute one shot pallatives to correct a malady that is deeply basic in our mis-used soil.

* * *

Give nature sane protection and half a chance, and she will do more in supplying equipment for production of wildlife than we sportsmen can do in a thousand years. Nothing better can be found for game production than good native environment. We have missed that point and started trying to correct things by spending money on man-made machinery that nature will supply if we let it. If we start here, recognizing the basic qualities of natural wildlife producing equipment, the necessity for it, then give it protection and add to the things we can do, with hatcheries, retaining ponds, law protection, bird farms, dams and every other program that is sound in its greatest sense. Only when we have native machinery nature produced in order, will we get somewhere- a lot further than trying to make any one type of man made program correct a sickness that lies fundamentally in misuse and disregard of those values and equipment in six inches under the earth's surface and twenty-four inches above it.

* * *

The hunters that treked to the quail territory in Southeastern Kansas, report the birds as being plentiful. While the vegetation was dry and dusty, making hard work for the dogs and causing many birds to be lost, they all agree that the 1938 season has been exceptionally favorable. In Western and Northwestern Kansas the conditions have not been so favorable, in some localities in these districts

where the quail are slowly coming back, the sportsmen as a rule, came to the very laudable decision to wait another year. True sportsmanship.

* * *

Another observation that interested us very much, was the number of so called sportsmen that were registered in the hotels in the quail district. Many of them came from our larger cities in various parts of the State and spent the entire 10 day period of the open season in getting the season bag limit of 25 quail. Knowing many of these people personally, and knowing that at trap and skeet shooting they had records of 95 and 98 out of a hundred, the idea that it would take them the full ten days to get the season's limit of 25 quail makes your Editor hesitate between the proper classification of a very low grade of sportsman or a downright game hog. It is regrettable that all of these parties were not of the male sex but included some of the female gentry. It is hoped and prayed for, by your Editor, that those who have violated the game laws of our State and the laws of decency, will find the quail they have illegally taken have the taste of wormwood.

* * *

Scotchman- "I want to rent a horse."

Groom - " How long?"

Scotchman- "The longest you've got, there be 5 of us going."

* * *

Having spent the days during the open season on quail in 1937, in the Northeastern part of the State, my attention was attracted to occasional farms that were posted with 'No Hunting' signs. Again this year, I was assigned to this same quail district in Southeastern Kansas, and my attention was forcibly called to the fact that where one farm was posted with 'No Hunting' and 'No Trespassing' signs in 1937, there were three if not four such posted farms in 1938. From observations during my sojourn in this district, which is the real quail district of our State, and from numerous talks with the farmers, I have come to the conclusion that the farmer and land owner who supplies the feed and cover for producing our Bob White quail must be given some consideration, and just because you, my fellow sportsman, have purchased a one dollar hunting license, and a fifty cent quail stamp, does not give you the privilege of trespassing on private property and pot shooting birds along highways. We are sure if this is continued and the decencies of true sportsmanship are forgotten, that our farmer friends will take more drastic measures that you high powered car owners will eventually recognize.

* * *

This is calling your attention: It is unlawful to shoot on any public highways.
highway.



MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Fines include Costs

Paul Adkinson, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Warden Teichgraeber, Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$ 20.00.

Elmer Payne, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon.

Leonard Barrow, Johnson County. Arrested 2 times in 2 days for Hunting without license. Local warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$40.00.

Wm A. Woodward Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00.

Max Jones, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00

Omer Mason, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00.

Glenn Long, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00

Peter Starostka, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00.

E. C. Carroll, Barton County. Pheasant shooting. Local Warden Frank Robl. Fine \$15.00

Harland Tubbs, Thomas County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Graham, Local Warden Saunders. Fine \$21.75.

A. Krasovec, Crawford County. Hunting without license. Local Warden Tom Dugan. Fine \$19.00.

Phil Elliott, Butler County. Arrested for not plugging gun. Local Warden Bill Ayres. Fine \$18.00.

E. R. Chrisco, Butler County. Hunting without license. Local Warden Bill Ayres. Fine \$16.50.

Lee Brown, Butler County. Arrested for not having gun plugged. Local Warden Bill Ayres. Fine \$18.00.

Fred Boyd, Cherokee County. Illegal possession of furs and hunting without license. District Warden Piggott. Fine \$30.00.

G. W. Grimes, Greenwood County. Shooting quail out of season. District Warden Merle Allen. Fine \$56.00.

Frank Kuhel, Crawford County. Hunting without license. District Warden Piggott, Local Warden Dugan. Fine \$19.00.

J. F. Hoffman, Johnson County. Hunting without license. District Warden Carl Teichgraeber, Local Warden O. A. Gordon.

H. J. Linder, Butler County. Trapping out of season. Local Warden Bill Ayres. Fine \$16.50.

ARRESTS Con't-

- Ray Zimmerman, Douglas County. Illegal possession of seine. District Warden Carl Teichgraeber. Fine \$21.00.
- Lew Schendel, Douglas County. Illegal possession of seine. Local Warden Gordon, Fine \$20.00.
- Ralph Wheeler, Bourbon County. Illegal trapping and possession of furs. Local Warden Elmer O. Connor. Fine \$13.50.
- John Gray, Johnson County. Hunting without license. District Warden Teichgraeber, Local Warden Gordon. Fine \$20.00.
- Charles Cramer, Johnson County. Hunting without license. District Warden Teichgraeber, Local Warden Gordon. Fine \$20.00. Jailed.
- E. Hill, Johnson County. Hunting without license. District Warden Teichgraeber, Local Warden O. A. Gordon. Fine \$20.00.
- J. C. Shipman, Kansas City, Mo. Hunting without non-resident license. Wardens Teichgraeber and Gordon. Fine \$20.00.
- Earl Bayles, Kansas City, Mo. Hunting without non-resident license. Wardens Gordon and Teichgraeber. Fine \$20.00.
- Petrowski, Bourbon County. Illegal possession of Furs. District Warden Rezeau. Fine \$17.50.
- Harry Lee Byrd, Kansas City, Mo. Hunting without non-resident license. Local Warden A. B. Shaugnessy. Fine \$18.75.
- Arlis Gamble, Allen County. Persistent violator and hunting without license. Local Warden A. B. Shaugnessy. \$46.60. Jailed.
- J. R. Kern, Montgomery County. Hunting without license. District Warden J. J. Gallivan. \$19.75. Jailed.
- Charles Barnhart, Montgomery County. Hunting without license. District Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$17.50.
- C. Graves, Montgomery County. Hunting without license. Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$17.50.
- W. Dawson, Cloud County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Byrne, Local Warden Tolles. Fine \$22.50.
- Abe Lynn, Miami County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Rezeau, Local Warden Low. Fine \$17.50.
- Charles Kramer, Johnson County. Hunting without license. Wardens Teichgraeber and Gordon. \$20.00.
- J. W. Underwood, Franklin County. Illegal possession of furs. Wardens Low and Rezeau. Fine \$17.50.
- Ed Rudnick, Chicago, Ill. Hunting without non-resident license. District Warden Teichgraeber. Fine \$20.00.
- Frank Gager, Rooks County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Graham. Fine \$21.75.
- Oran Loss, Kansas City, Mo. Hunting without non-resident license. District Warden Teichgraeber. \$16.00.
- M. J. Loss, Independence, Missouri. Hunting without non-resident license. District Warden Teichgraeber. Fine \$16.00.
- Ed Rudnick, Chicago, Ill. Hunting without non-resident license. District Warden Teichgraeber. Second offense fined \$16.00 and ordered out of State.
- W. C. Stilwell, hunting without non-resident license. Warden Carl Teichgraeber. Fine \$16.00.
- Ralph Randall, Shooting ducks after 4 P. M. Warden Teichgraeber. Fine \$20.00.

ARRESTS Con't

Floyd Brubaker and Duane Beer. Shooting game after sunset. Local Warden L. A. Postier. Fine \$24.95 each. Postier's Commission has been revoked for making this arrest on unjustifiable charges.

Dan Gilbert, Clay County. Illegal possession of furs.. District Warden H. D. Byrne. Fine \$22.50. Jailed.

Lester Chayer, Clay County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Byrne. Fine \$22.50. Jailed.

Ray Allison, Clay County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Byrne and Local Warden Tolles. Fine \$23.16.

Elmer Yerks, Clay County. Illegal possession of furs. Wardens Tolles and Byrne. Fine \$23.17.

Irwin Catheart, Rawlins County. Illegal Possession of furs. Local Warden Harry Howard. Fine \$21.50.

Ed L. Fleppet, Allen County. Hunting without license. Local Warden Fred Weeks. Fine \$13.00.

Dudley Hall, Haskell County. Hunting ducks with un-plugged gun. District Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$22.50.

Delbert and Curtis Yardley, Haskell County. Shooting ducks after 6 O'clock District Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$27.50.

H. R. Bryan, Haskell County. Shooting ducks along public highway. District Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$22.50.

Lee Kisner, Haskell County. Shooting ducks from public highway. District Warden J. J. Gallivan. Fine \$22.50.

Aaron Alexander, Chautauqua County. Trapping out of season. Local Warden W. W. Walton. Fine \$15.00.

Lawrence Nelson, Washington County. Illegal Possession of furs. Local Warden Luther Hanson. Fine \$20.00.

Clarence A. Brown Cloud County. Illegal possession of furs. Local Warden S. Feger. Fine \$24.50.

D. H. Lehman, Harvey County. Shooting a goose before 7 O'clock. Local Warden F. W. Saunders. Fine \$16.00.

Tommie Cooper, Anderson County. Illegal possession of furs. District Warden Rezeau. Fine \$20.00.

Harry Mosses, Neosho County. Possession of trammel net. District Warden Piggott. Fine \$15.00.

Ernest Maiseroullis, Crawford County. Hunting without license. Local Warden W. W. Walton. Fine \$12.50.

F. L. Herod, Neosho County. Failure to keep record of furs purchased. Local Warden W. W. Walton. Fine \$15.00.

Jesus Garcia Shawnee County. Illegal sale of furs. District Warden Teichgraeber. Fine \$20.95.

Wm M. Drake, Kansas City, Mo. Hunting without non-resident license. Local Warden Geo Dedrick. Fine \$16.00.

J. W. Woodward, Cherokee County. Hunting without license. Local Warden Dugan. Fine \$17.40.

Joe Ballinger, Elk County. Trapping & possession of furs out of season. Local Warden W. W. Walton. Fine \$17.50.

Arthur Wood, Cherokee County. Hunting without license. Local Warden Dugan. Fine \$17.40.

Abe Furry, Elk County. Trapping & having furs in possession out of season. Local Warden W. W. Walton.



Wardens Page



CARL TEICHGRAEBER, District 1- Arrested Ed Rudnick of Chicago, Ill. for hunting without non-resident license on November 23, then again on November 25. He is convinced that Rudnick feels it would have been cheaper to buy a non-resident license.

JACK NESTER, District 2- Water in creek very low, leaves falling in the pools have turned the water to a coffee color, fear this will be detrimental to fish.

BRICE REZEAU, District 3- Many pre-season trappers. Has arrested a number and confiscated quite a lot of fur. Hunting license sales exceed last year.

MERLE ALLEN, District 4- Watching quail hunters. Much trouble with coon hunters. Has accumulated 4 coon hounds as well as 5 live coon and some pre-season furs.

CHESTER YOWELL, District 6 - Reports helping salvage three truck loads of fish from Frazier's Lake, El Dorado. 2 loads of these fish were distributed in near by waters, 1 load consisting of, crappie, blue gill and bass was brought to the Hatchery at Pratt and will be distributed from there.

W. F. PIGGOTT, District 4- Goodquail shooting in this district. Has confiscated many pre-season trapped furs.

H. D. BYRNE, District 7- Quail shooting has been unsatisfactory. Water low, need rain badly.

GEORGE WALLERIUS, District 8- Reports a stray buck deer near Minneapolis that evidently escaped from some park, he cautions all hunters to not forget themselves should they see this buck. George Kubach of Bennington has taken this deer under his protection and woe to the guy that kills him.

RAYMOND DAVIDSON, District 9- Quail have been more plentiful than usual this season. Farmers as a rule wish to protect them and have posted their land.

C. W. GRAHAM, District 10- Many complaints of damage done by beavers in Rawlins, Cheyenne, Decatur and Norton Counties. The hunters did not get all the pheasants during the open season, still lots of them to be seen.

HOWARD TALBOTT, District 11- Need of rain. Not much hunting since closing of pheasant season. Still a good many pheasants to be seen.

J. J. GALLIVAN, District 12- Lake Mc Kinney in Kearney County and Lake Meade in Meade County are covered with ducks. Mostly Mallards. He estimates that Lake Meade alone has 50,000 ducks on it. During the season, he and 3 friends bagged 18 Canadian geese near Ashland.

SPECIAL WARDEN OWEN MOORE,- Who acted during the quail season, reports checking the non-resident license of Dale Carnegie of New York who spent a day after quail.

With this, our last issue for 1938 of "Outdoors With The Forestry, Fish and Game Commission of Kansas" we wish all of our readers and those who are interested in the wildlife resources of Kansas, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. So here is to you, my friends, hoping that your blessings for the coming year will be many and that your troubles, if any, may be few.

K. C. B.