

# KANSAS FISH AND GAME



VOL. VI

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No. III



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# 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*

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## Game Farms to Operate at Full Capacity

Now that many of the commission's heretofore troublesome labor problems have been solved the commission at its meeting on March 10 authorized the operation of game farms this year at full capacity. Because of that decision by the commission the two quail farms are expected to produce about 25,000 bob white quail and the pheasant farm at Meade to produce from fifteen to twenty thousand ring-necked pheasants.

The game farm superintendents, as well as other commission employees, have said that they would cooperate with the commission in this expanded game program if it was necessary for them all to do extra work. With that fine spirit of coöperation we look forward to meeting the commission's game bird quotas this year.

## To Improve State Parks

The commission, anticipating an increased usage of state parks this year because of wartime restriction on travel, has instructed its park supervisors to make a survey of their parks to determine what new structures and other facilities will be necessary to accommodate the crowds and assure the park visitor a pleasant and comfortable outing.

The state lakes have been stocked heavily with fish for the benefit of the anglers who make use of these waters. Other points that the commission have emphasized in their park program are the designating of bathing areas and the adoption of measures designed to protect the lives of those who make use of such facilities. It is expected that new fireplaces and roasting ovens will be placed at convenient points throughout the park, not only for the benefit of the casual picnickers but for the overnight campers as well. The commission wants the people of Kansas to make use of the state parks and will do everything that they can do to make such visits enjoyable.

A letter addressed to the director of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, Pratt, Kan., will bring you information as to the location of parks and a description of the facilities to be found at the parks.

It takes about 1,800 Olympic oysters, the native oysters of the Pacific Coast, to make a gallon.

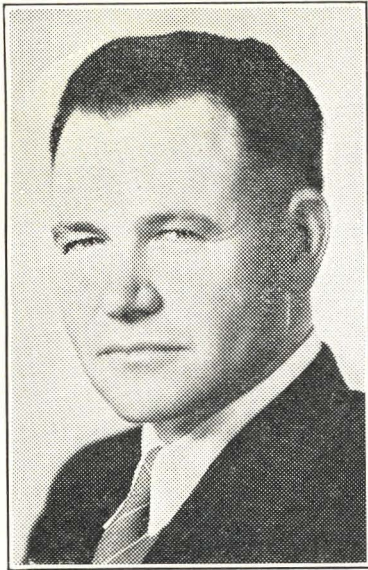
## Outdoor Writers Association Conference

The Outdoor Writers Association of America concluded a three-day session a fortnight ago at Columbus, Ohio. About 150 members registered. Excellent papers were presented by state and government soil and wildlife administrators and a number of other talks were made by private individuals—Louis Bromfield, the noted farmer-author among them—who contributed to the problems of soil, water and vegetation that were under discussion.

Earl Roman, outdoor editor of the Miami (Fla.) *Herald*, won the Wm. J. Baxter, Jr., award which is presented annually to the outdoor writer who contributes most, over and above his column, to the cause of conservation during the year.

Roman found that decaying vegetation, which had glutted a hundred or more miles of Florida canals, was a good fertilizer. Many of the streams are now clear and again teeming with fish.

Among the resolutions adopted were: 1. The creation of an advisory committee of sportsmen to help in making up the water fowl regulations each year. 2. Increase the purchase price of the duck stamp and use a part of the increase in developing the nesting areas for waterfowl in Canada. 3. Make a national audit of wildlife. 4. Give fish and game authorities a voice in determining whether water-control projects are feasible. 5. Municipalities should not be eligible for postwar federal aid money unless they have an adequate water-sewer system to prevent pollution of streams. 6. A treaty should be made to protect the fisheries of the Great Lakes. 7. The Singer tract in Louisiana should be purchased for a refuge to preserve the remaining ivory-billed woodpeckers and other wildlife of the area. 8. A prairie chicken refuge should be established in Indiana. 9. The Bennett Clark bill to earmark the excise tax on fishing tackle for federal aid to state fishery restoration projects should be passed. 10. A fishing and hunting educational program for boys and girls should be started throughout the nation. 11. State outdoor writers should hold conferences locally to the end that soil, water and forests will be given a greater play in outdoor columns. 12. The common names of wildlife species should be used by the writers and the spelling simplified.



GUY D. JOSSERAND

## Josserand Leaves Commission

Guy D. Josserand, Copeland, Director of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission since May, 1939, resigned from that post effective March 1.

The resignation of Mr. Josserand was accepted by the Commission in order that he could return to his farming and cattle interests in Western Kansas.

During his term of directorship Josserand aided in the organization of many sportsmen's clubs and successfully worked for closer coöperation between the sportsmen and the commission.

## Rabbit Club Grows

One of the most popular hobbies to be developed in the last year has been due to the meat rationing program and the hobby is the raising of domestic rabbits. Many beginners have started with one mother rabbit in an old wooden box in the back yard. Soon there were from six to ten rabbits, big enough to fry, to supplement the daily portion of the family platter.

This is the reason many of the rabbit breeders of Marshall county have formed a club—for the exchange of knowledge and ideas on the care, feeding, housing and other information which would help in the project. The club meets every two weeks at the courthouse in Marysville, and is growing.—Blue Rapids *Times*.

## Kinds of Water Plants

It is quite important that the proper kinds of aquatic plants be grown in waters where fish are to be raised. Almost any kind of water plant is better than nothing. However, certain kinds of fish feed upon certain varieties of plants. Again, plants furnish food for many

animals, especially the small and low forms of life that fish feed upon. Plants, especially those with large leaves like water lilies, are not only beautiful to grow in ponds, but they furnish both shade and protection for both old and young fish. However, the lilies should not be allowed to take possession of the entire pond to the exclusion of all other plants. They are not good food producers. So long as they can be confined to certain localities in the pond they are all right, but when they cover most of the surface area of the pond, the natural animal life food supply of the pond is greatly reduced. In our judgment not more than one-fifth of the area of any pond should at any time be covered with lilies.

We learn from a study of the relations of plant and animal life that certain varieties of plants not only in themselves serve as food for many kinds of fish, but these same plants make good harboring places and feeding grounds for numerous lower forms of water animal life which serve as food for fish. A good fish pond is one that is so properly stocked with vegetable matter that it will produce insects, mollusks, crustaceans and other life in abundance at a time when fish need such food. Fish need certain kinds of food while young and growing, and still other kinds later on to bring them to maturity. Nearly all this food comes directly or indirectly from the vegetation that grows in the water. It is necessary, therefore, for the fish pond operator to know something about aquatic vegetable life, in order that he may intelligently produce fish in satisfactory size and quantities.

Experience has taught us that a pond with no water plants growing in it is a rather poor place for fish. There is but little food and almost no protection in such a pond for the fish. At the State Hatchery the ponds that are well supplied with water plants are by far the best for producing fish. When many fish are hatched in ponds where there are few or no plants, one of two things usually happens—the fish either eat each other up, or, owing to their impoverished condition, they become stunted and are liable to become diseased and die.

The foregoing is from a departmental bulletin by Dyche and is printed on request.

## Resigns Game Job

L. Dick Golden, of Goodland, state game protector for the Goodland area, has resigned his position, effective as of February 15, in order to devote his entire time to his private affairs. Joe Faulkner of Colby, who has been in charge of the counties east of Golden's district, will take over Mr. Golden's territory and Roy Kiefer, of Oberlin, will be in charge of the territory formerly covered by Mr. Faulkner.

## Dave Leahy New Game Director

PRATT, KAN., March 10

Dave Leahy, acting director of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, this afternoon was elevated to the position of director by members of the commission. He succeeds Guy Josserand, whose resignation from the position became effective March 1.

Announcement of Mr. Leahy's selection was made by Lee Larrabee, chairman of the commission, who with other members, had been in session here all day.

Mr. Leahy has been with the commission continuously except for a short time since 1928. Under the old fish and game set-up he served as chief clerk and upon organization of the present bi-partisan commission, he was named acting director.

Through his long association with the fish and game department, Mr. Leahy probably knows more of its affairs than any other man in the state. He has a wide acquaintance among the sportsmen of the state, many of whom had written the commission since the Josserand resignation, urging that Mr. Leahy be named to the post.

"We feel that we have made a wise selection," Mr. Larrabee said in announcing the appointment. He indicated that it came as a surprise to Mr. Leahy.

Mr. and Mrs. Leahy, who have made their home at the Hatchery while living in Pratt, have two children, Dave Leahy, Jr., in the navy, and Margaret Leahy, a senior in high school here. Mr. Leahy also serves as a member of the selective service board of Pratt county.—Pratt Daily *Tribune*.

## Fish Ponds and Vegetation

The animal kingdom lives on the vegetable kingdom. In other words, vegetable matter constitutes and forms the basis of all animal life. A great number of forms of life, both animal and vegetable, are dependent one upon the other, but animal life is essentially dependent upon vegetable life. Many forms of animal life live entirely upon other forms of animal life, but somewhere along the line of growth and development it will be found that vegetable life forms the basis, either directly or indirectly, of all animal life.

A tadpole is essentially a vegetable feeder and has a very long intestine, like other animals that eat and live upon vegetable matter, for digesting and assimilating such material. The tadpole is gradually changed or developed into a bullfrog. A bullfrog eats no vegetable food; it feeds on insects and various other forms of live animals. The Channel catfish or the Black bass may devour the bullfrog, and these fish in turn serve as food for man. Whether we eat bass or beefsteak the basis of the food is vegetable matter that has been consumed and changed into animal tissue by vegetable-eating or herbivorous forms of life. Thus it

is that vegetation becomes the basis of all fish life, and it makes little difference whether the fish eat worms, mollusks, grasshoppers, crayfish, frogs or other fish, the fact remains that the basis of all fish life is vegetable matter. Therefore it becomes necessary for the fish culturist, and for all parties who expect to engage in the fish culture business, to have more or less knowledge of the vegetable life that is or should be produced in the waters where fish are to be raised.

## Turtles, Neglected Food Source, Coming Back in Nation's Markets

Consumption of fresh-water turtles—favored for soups, stews, and other savory dishes—took an upward turn in 1943, at least in the larger urban markets, reports the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In Chicago, a good barometer for the middle west, sales of this aquatic food were up fifty percent over 1942.

Although not more than half a dozen out of about fifty species of fresh-water turtles found in the United States are caught for market in important quantities, practically all kinds of turtles are edible and production can probably be further increased, according to the fishery experts. Records of past catches are fragmentary, however, and no estimate has been made of the amount of turtle meat potentially available.

Reassuring the housewife who might expect turtles to present a difficult problem, specialists of the Fish and Wildlife Service declare that a turtle is easier to dress than a chicken and requires less time. With a little practice, five or ten minutes will suffice for a ten-pound snapper.

Depending somewhat on the species and size, a turtle dresses from one to two-thirds of its live weight. The simplest and quickest method of dressing yields six portions of good, edible meat—the 4 quarters including the legs and surrounding muscles, the tail, the neck. In more careful dressing two strips of meat under the back shell, called tenderloins, are also removed.

Probably most turtles go into the soup kettle, an eight-pound turtle providing enough soup for fifty persons. However, the meat may also be roasted, broiled or stewed.

Snapping turtles, soft-shelled turtles, and so-called "sliders" are the most important commercial species of fresh-water turtles. In the larger markets the greatest volume of turtle sales probably consists of snappers. Soft-shelled turtles are eaten extensively in the South, and to some extent elsewhere.

The largest of all nonmarine turtles in the United States is the alligator snapper, which frequently weighs more than 100 pounds and can snap a broom handle in two with ease. The alligator snapper lives along the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts and up the Mississippi Valley to the latitude of Illinois, while

its smaller relative—the common snapping turtle—is widely distributed east of the Rockies. Common snappers live to be about twenty-five years old; alligator snappers sometimes twice as long.

## A Two-man Crow Campaign

We heard crows hollering and quit casting right there and then—wound up our lines and started after 'em.

Crow Hunter Frazee speaking—ending a fishing or game-hunting yarn the usual way—by shooting crows.

Only, says his crow-shooting crony, "Ike" Bliss, "we didn't wind our lines up that day, we just threw 'em in the river.

Anyhow, this particular day (and they're agreed on this), they shot 63 of the black predators.

Yes, that's right, 63!

If you're the usual sort of crow hunter—someone who drives along, trying a shot every now and then, with perhaps one or two crows to your credit at the end of the trip, such a number as 63 seems as possibly a number you might shoot in several years, if at all.

But Earl Frazee says he'll "bet anybody \$100 he can start out at 8 o'clock in the morning and kill 100 crows before the day is over."

And he means it! So does his friend and companion, "Ike," also of Coffeyville, Kan., who backs up everything the former has to say about the sport. They'll tell you that you just can't beat crow shooting for sport. That there's absolutely nothing like it. No bag limit. No seasons. Smart quarry. Tricky shooting. Besides the fact that every crow killed means one less destroyer of eggs and young game birds—not to mention the farmer's corn.

These two Coffeyville sportsmen have killed something like 15,000 crows since 1935 when they started their two-man campaign against the black marauders. And this is a very conservative estimate.

During the past two years, they have been shooting crows summer and winter. They figure they must have done away with at least 3,000 last year—just one week during this period, they got 900.

It's a bit different now with the scarcity of shells. Now, and for the duration, they each take two boxes of shells and limit themselves to those two boxes for use during a day's sport. But do they make those shells count! They really pick their shots now.

One Sunday recently, they got 83 crows out of their two boxes each (100 shells total).

A Wednesday, they shot and killed 93 crows out of their self-imposed allotment (only Frazee fudged and brought along three boxes instead of two). On the last box of shells, which he produced rather sheepishly, and offered to halve with "Ike," results totaled 23 crows with the 25 shells. That's shootin'.



Type of blinds and decoys used by crow hunters Frazee and Bliss.

For shot, these two cronies use Number 7—don't want any other. And for guns, they both use 12-gauge pumps. They have other guns but don't use them. And they use full choke. Who cares if a bird is sometimes blown to pieces. They've never eaten any crow meat and don't intend to. When they leave the pests lying around after they've been killed, only a skunk or 'possum perhaps will touch them.

Frazee and Bliss used to cut off the crows' feet to send in for bounty collections—now, they don't bother with bounty collecting, just make it purely a sporting proposition. The last time they did collect a bounty, they sent in feet of 1,595 crows, netting \$79. This was slightly staggering to the county treasurer's office and the payment was held up indefinitely.

But the results obtained by these two top-notch crow shooters of Southeastern Kansas and Northeastern Oklahoma are not from hit and miss methods used by the average hunter. In order to draw crows' blood, the matter of equipment must be considered. Musts, in addition to the shotgun of course, are a blind and a crow call. You must have these. Crow decoys and an owl, live or stuffed, are optional.

Both Bliss and Frazee have calls made out of myrtle wood (you can get this wood either in Southern Oregon or Palestine) and they say they're the best. And both hunters carry cardboard blinds which can be folded up like dressing screens. These hinged affairs, which are topless, weigh perhaps ten pounds and can be carted around easily enough.

These dyed-in-the-wool crow shooters and masters of the art will tell you, too, that the best crow-shootin' is to be found on the little narrow byroads and around creeks—favorite roosting places. Flyways aren't plentiful on main-traveled roads.

Earl and "Ike" met each other on a quail hunt, shortly after the former had moved to Coffeyville from Pittsburg, Kan. Earl Frazee had had the fever for some time and he got to talking about shooting crows during the quail hunt. At that time, he says he often had killed as many as three crows by sneaking up on them. He'd be driving along and notice some



Crow Hunters Frazee and Bliss with their day's work behind them.

crows near by. Getting his gun out of its case as quietly as possible, he'd stealthily creep up on them.

Today, prospect of three dead crows would make a hunting jaunt seem the most dismal sort of failure.

But—going back.

He talked about crows during the quail hunt. Then the two of them went rabbit hunting together, taking Frazee's small son, and the three of them managed to bag 65 rabbits. They also shot a few crows and here it was that Frazee propositioned Bliss to go crow hunting with him. They went, but weren't too successful. They got plenty of birds in with their crow calling, but they couldn't get close enough to get many. A nearby duck blind helped. But there was always one wary bird to tattle to the rest of their whereabouts. Then it was that Frazee had his idea.

"I told 'Ike' I was going to build a crow blind," he relates. "I said I thought I'd make it out of pasteboard and I had a feeling it would work."

Crow Hunter Frazee is one of those fellows who, when he gets struck with an idea, wants to work on it immediately. He went home, fixed up this blind, went back out, got into some birds, and killed 40. This was better, much better.

The two of them got off to a good start there and then and haven't any thought of stopping for a long while yet. They're afraid they've done a pretty thorough job of cleaning up the roosts in this section. There are undoubtedly some which haven't been wiped out yet, because heretofore, this predator-killing team didn't care whether they got on a "red hot set" near or far from home. They thought nothing of regularly driving 200 miles to good crow territory. Not too long ago, a couple of good shots netted them 408 birds. They pick up a wolf now and then, too.

Sometimes they'll set their blinds up as far apart as two miles and stay all day.

Frazee and Bliss will take you along on one of their hunts if you want to go, and they'll also talk your arm off about this sport which they think is so much fun. Or endeavor to trade you out of any shells you happen to have.

While game hunting in Canada, Frazee says he took time out to hunt crows there, much to the astonishment of the game commissioner at Saskatchewan.

"Ike" mentions that he just traded his last rod and reel for some additional shells—says there's no use going fishing when he wants to go crow hunting. When Coffeyville was hit by flood waters just recently and the high waters invaded his home, he rescued his shells among the first items.

You won't be able to do as well as these two men the first time you go crow hunting, but take their word for it, it's great sport and good riddance.—KATHRYN RICKEL.

## Sportsman Urges Sane Game Program

Dr. H. M. Shaw in the Independence Reporter:

"The normal quail season from November 20 to 30, inclusive, showed plenty of birds in most areas, but limit kills were not as frequent as last year. The man who could get out only a few times was likely to have been disappointed on some of his days out. The experience of most hunters bears out the past that there were plenty of birds, but that they were hard to handle and especially hard to flush after the first rise. In some cases they seemed to literally disappear. Whether they ran or set too tight to be flushed is a question. Our experience was that they did both at different times.

"The three extra days of the past week were tough ones to be out and most reports were that the birds were hard to find. Tramping in the heavy snow was hard on city legs and the air was cold enough to make taking it easy not too comfortable. We have had some reports of limit bags or nearly so from a few hardy hunters, but for the most part we do not think the bird crop was harmed to any great extent.

"The three days of open season in the middle of the week stirred up a great deal of talk and some criticism among the boys who could not get out on those days. The idea prevails among many that the big boys used their influence to set these days so the little fellow could not get out, but we feel that there must have been some other reason than this. The power that the Commission was granted by the last legislature to regulate and set seasons was granted with the idea that their decisions were to be made in the best interest of our wildlife and we feel that the Commission is made up of men who will so make their decisions. There are bound to be times when it is impossible to please everybody.

"We hope that pressure groups will not make it any harder for these men to carry out a plan that in the long run is to be the best interest of our fish and game, for in spite of your ideas and my ideas of what is best, the welfare of our wildlife must be the final answer."

**TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT  
"OLE DAVE" JOTS IT DOWN**

The protecting of beavers in Kansas has certainly brought about worth-while results. Less than twenty-five years ago a beaver in Kansas was considered a nature oddity. Now, as a result of the protective laws, wisely enacted by a far-seeing legislature, the number of beaver colonies and the number of animals populating them has increased to a point where the beaver can once more be considered one of the states valuable fur producers.

During the past sixty days game protectors and other commission employees have been engaged in removing beavers from areas of Kansas where they had become a menace to farm crops and farm properties.

The records indicate that nearly 200 beavers have been taken by these employees. The pelts of these animals will be sold to the highest bidder at the Game Department's annual fur sale and the funds derived from that sale will be made available to the Fish and Game Commission for a furtherance of its conservation program.

It gives us a great deal of pleasure to point out that the number of beavers trapped this year was far less than that of any previous years. This simply indicates that farmers and ranchmen have come to value the worth of the beaver and find that it is more beneficial to their interest than they first supposed.

Elsewhere in this issue of the *KANSAS FISH AND GAME* we reprint the view of the outdoor writers of America, an organization of newsmen and others who write columns and articles for the daily newspapers dealing with the out-of-doors, particularly fish and game. We commend these printed articles to your attention as they are chucked full of good common fish and game sense.

Pheasant hunters will be interested to learn that the Fish and Game Commission is restocking many of the northwest Kansas counties with wild ring necks recently procured from the South Dakota Fish and Game Commission.

The fact that these birds are of a breeding age and are being turned loose prior to the breeding season makes certain of an increase from them this year.

Jay Owens, Salina, second district fish and game commissioner, has advised the editor of *KANSAS FISH AND GAME* that fishing this year along the Smoky Hill and Solomon rivers will be better than it has been for many years.

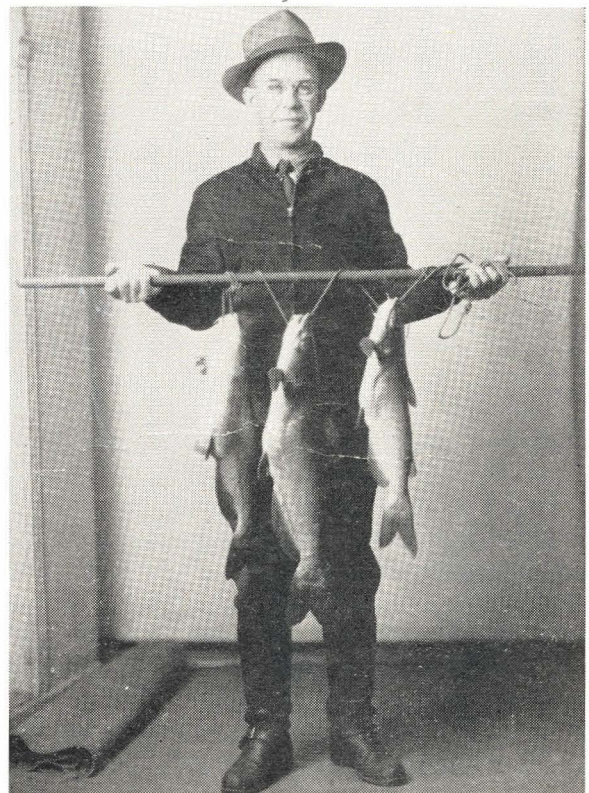
Mr. Owens bases his encouraging prediction on the

fact that there was little loss of fish during the last winter months because of winter kill and on information given him by late winter anglers. During the latter days of February and the early days of March many fine catches of channel cats were reported to him from these two rivers which are, incidentally, noted channel cat streams.

This year's flight of migratory waterfowl northward is a very encouraging sight. The ducks and geese are to be found in every section of the state in unprecedented numbers. Some of the old timers say it is the largest spring flight in many, many years and predict that if one-half of the northward bound geese return next fall, we shall be assured a good hunting season.

Early reports from state lakes and state game protectors are encouraging. The superintendents of the Woodson, Neosho and Ottawa County State Parks report many fine catches of fish so far this year by the early anglers. The bass and crappie at the Clark County State Lake are striking on flies, plugs and live bait according to information from game protectors.

This lake, you will recall, was opened for the first time in May, 1943. It is a lake that we would especially recommend to you for your fishing trips this year.



Charlie Harms with a nice and, as he asserts, not unusual catch from the Neosho County State Lake



## Wild Waterfowl Conference

The OWAA used its good offices in calling into conference sportsmen and representatives of state conservation departments, which conference was held independently and concurrently with the OWAA convention in Columbus, the evening of Tuesday, February 22, at Columbus.

Meeting with the various delegates from about twenty states east of the Rocky Mountains were a number of representatives of the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, headed by Assistant Director Al Day and Fred Lincoln, expert on wild waterfowl migrations. Also present were Frederic C. Walcott, president of the American Wildlife Federation, and John H. Baker, administrative head of the National Association of Audubon Societies. Nash Buckingham, well-known sportsman and outdoor writer, presided.

For three hours the whole wild waterfowl situation was thoroughly and amicably discussed. Every phase of wild-fowling was touched upon and the federal authorities present took copious notes, but promised nothing definite, except reasserting that they would attempt to find ways and means of giving the sportsmen of the country just as good a break in the matter of wild waterfowl regulations as the condition of the available crop and the outlook for the succeeding crop indicated. It was reiterated and generally agreed by all present that it was necessary to create a backlog of wild waterfowl against the return of the thousands of soldiers now in the armed forces of the country and the contemplated increase in the number of gunners taking the field once the present war is over.

Regarding the discussion from the floor by the various delegates present, as could be expected, the requests from the various states differed widely to put it mildly. Some few states were fairly well satisfied with present conditions, others demanded immediate changes, to which still others violently objected. Out of it all, the following picture developed.

It was generally agreed that for 1944 there should be a return to a set time for opening and closing the day's shooting instead of using sunrise and sunset as a time factor. It is quite likely that this recommendation will be heeded.

There was a quite general, although not unanimous, request for the use of live decoys in both wild duck and goose shooting, and while no promise whatsoever was made, it is felt that the federal boys will give this request full consideration.

As for "baiting," there is every indication that it is completely out of the picture. While delegates from Maryland, Missouri and Illinois urgently requested the right to use "bait" under strict supervision, most of the other delegates present were opposed to such a regulation, and the federal authorities present frankly

stated that for the present at least it would be impossible to obtain the return of "baiting."

There was very little mention of an open season on swan, but there was an indication that the Fish and Wildlife Service is giving this some consideration for the 1944 season.

One or two states requested an increase in the daily bag limit from ten to twelve, but it was the opinion of the great majority of those present that the present daily bag limit is sufficient, especially as it was necessary that a backlog of wild ducks and geese be brought about for the more intensive shooting expected as soon as the war is over.

By far the greater portion of the time was given over to a discussion of ways and means for bringing that about open seasons for all sections of the country at a time when the wild ducks were on hand to furnish recreational gunning. Various methods of bringing about such a condition were suggested, chiefly a prolongation of the open season to ninety days and the dividing of some of the affected states into two zones.

Representatives of most of the states present declared that under the present zoning, large areas of their respective states were deprived of a proper share of shooting because the season closed just as the wild ducks began arriving. The federal authorities present were frank in their opposition to placing any state into two zones, claiming that the resultant zone map would be a hodge-podge, if every state that desired it, were given this privilege.

It was suggested that if the season were extended to ninety days, to offset the increased number of shooting days, the aforesaid shooting days could be reduced to three per week, which would aggregate less shooting days than in the straight seventy-day season in vogue at present under the regulations. There was no comment on this from the federal officials, but they took notes.

It was generally agreed that the 1943 wild waterfowl migrations were abnormal and that many of the complaints arising from the wild duck distribution for last season would be cleared away under a normal migration. It was acknowledged, however, that there were still many areas in the country where even under normal conditions, extreme temperature changes within the boundaries of a single state worked a great hardship upon the sportsmen of those states.

Towards the close of the meeting, Carl Shoemaker suggested that a way might be found out of the difficulty by returning to a two-zone system for determining the open seasons, the boundary line between the two zones following a "temperature" line rather than meandering across country on a state boundary basis. There was an indication that the federal officials present were interested in this solution to the re-zoning problem.

## ARRESTS IN FEBRUARY, 1944

DEFENDANT	CHARGE	PROTECTOR	DISPOSITION
Sidney Verhage .....	Selling fur without proper license.....	Minckley, Kyser .....	Convicted
Loy Hoffman .....	Fishing without license.....	Kyser, Concannon .....	Convicted
Willis Sweetland .....	Fishing without license.....	Kyser, Concannon .....	Convicted
Harold Moore .....	Incomplete fur record .....	Toburen .....	Convicted
Philip Spacek .....	Selling furs without license .....	Toburen .....	Convicted
Joe Favreau .....	Selling furs without license .....	Jones, Kiefer .....	Convicted
Paul McClure .....	Selling furs without license .....	Toburen .....	Convicted
Robt. Blockelsky .....	Selling furs without license .....	Toburen .....	Convicted
Art Gariss .....	Hunting without license .....	Shay, Andrew .....	Convicted
Kenneth Hazlett .....	Selling furs without license .....	Toburen .....	Convicted

### A Philosophy of the Outdoors

By DR. T. G. GILBERT PEARSON

I am one of those inconsistent ornithologists who thrill with esthetic joy at the whistle of a bobwhite in the morning, could eagerly hunt him with dog and gun in the afternoon, and with great gastronomic rapture enjoy him on toast when the even shadows fall.

If I did not hold these views, I would be insensible to the avian music which kind Nature provided for everyone, would show unusual stupidity in not recognizing the value of wild game in providing opportunities for healthful field-sports, and by implication would confess that I did not appreciate exquisite food when good fortune brings it my way.

Of course all people do not feel this way. I have known men who did not know the song of one bird from another or to whom it ever occurred that they were losing anything in life by not being able to discriminate in such matters. There are many excellent people who cry out against the killing of a deer or quail under any circumstances; and there are those who deal unwisely with food, as did William Jennings Bryan when, one hot day following the Scopes' Evolution Trial in Tennessee, he so amply partook of the viands of his boarding house that the end came swiftly.

On a trans-Atlantic steamer I met a gentleman and his charming wife who invited me to dine with them. Shortly after the waiter began to function in our behalf, the lady suddenly emitted a gasp of dismay. Hastily I glanced at her soup plate expecting to find a drowning fly or perhaps a mouse. Then I saw she was staring aghast at the menu card whereon she had seen the word "partridge." When she had recovered sufficiently to permit her nerves and muscles to coordinate, she told me that she was a bird-lover and could not bear the thought of a partridge being killed. Before many minutes I saw her devouring lamb chops with unabashed eagerness that caused me to think she did not realize that the terror suffered by the frantically-struggling, mild-eyed little lamb while its throat was being cut was perhaps even greater than that experienced by the unlucky partridge when it took wing in front of the hunting dog.

Woman, lovely woman, shrinks from the thought of killing far more than does the average man; but we men have had long experience in bloodletting. Ever since the dim, red dawn of our species, we have been practicing the art of destroying life. We have done this ever since we used to hurry our mates into the cave or chase them up a tree when the roar of a hunting saber-tooth came down the wind. We killed fish and in bands we used our flint-headed spears against the reindeer, the aurochs, and the mammoth that we might have flesh to eat with the berries our women folk gathered. This is the history of man in every land.

In North America game birds and game mammals were of enormous advantage to the early settlers in furnishing a readily-acquired meat supply. But conditions have greatly changed. No longer is the flesh of game essential to our livelihood. Games' chief value today is the incentive it provides for millions of men to engage in health-giving outdoor exercises.

### To Release Shotgun Shells

According to Senator Maybank we are advised that the War Production Board will release 26,000,000 shotgun shells for civilian use on April 1.

A proportional distribution will be made monthly thereafter, Maybank said he was told, the amount depending on production from material available. This will be welcome news to sportsmen and also farmers who have been troubled greatly by predatory animals.

### "Cover"

Mace McDonald, Junction City, sends us this month's cover picture of fur taken by dogs during recent fur season.

Halibut mature at the age of about eleven years; forty years is a ripe old age.

A young eel is ribbon-like and so transparent that print may be read through its body.

### MORE SHOTGUN SHELLS FOR 1944

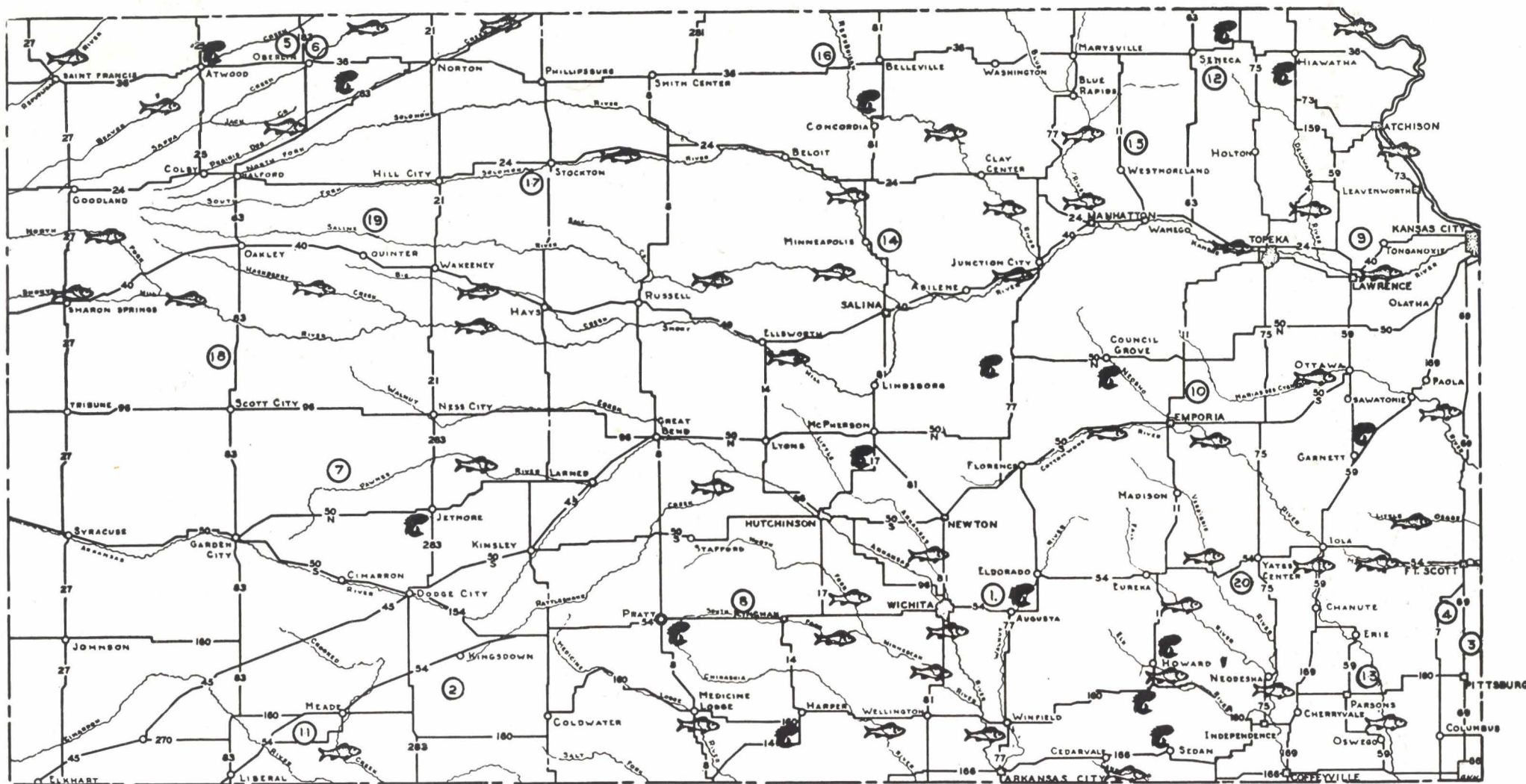
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There will be more shotgun shells made and released for use in the field this year than last. That is a certainty unless the battlefronts completely upset all the calculations.

But it will be just as much a subterfuge to get them again this year as it was last fall. Just why the powers that be seem to think that they have to camouflage the right to possess shells is more than any of us have been able to find out.

The few shells which were distributed last year (about 100,000,000 rounds) were made for the sportsmen. The sportsmen went before the WPB. They took the matter up at the Denver Conference and they followed up here in Washington through the spring and late into the summer. Yet, when the shells were ready for distribution, the sportsman could only get them by signing a certificate to the effect that they were to be used to shoot predators. We have been told that some such certificate will again be required—even though it is stated that from three and a half to eight times as many shells are to be available for sportsmen to reap the surplus game crop this year than there were last year. Actually it makes law violators of all sportsmen who go out for a day's hunt.—*Conservation News*.

# 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