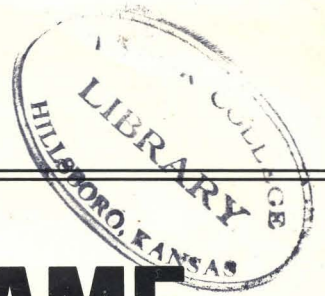


# KANSAS FISH AND GAME



VOL. VI

MAY-JUNE, 1944

No. V



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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*

VOL. VI

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## Lake Anglers Exceed 1,000

Opening of the Council Grove lake to fishing precipitated a rush for licenses that began at 5 o'clock Saturday evening, continued most of the night and reached a peak between 5:30 and 6:15 on Sunday morning. Among those assisting Mrs. George Baker in issuing licenses at the caretaker's house were Mrs. Mary Milleson, Al Schmidt, A. J. Carlson, G. R. Johnson, Marlin Schrader, N. M. Patton and Maurice Webster. They were still writing for late comers at five in the afternoon.

The Chamber of Commerce cash award for the first fisherman to hook his limit was won by little Chan Blim. He reported at the caretaker's house with a full creel just an hour and forty-five minutes after A. J. Carlson had fired the sunrise gun that sent anglers scrambling for likely casting spots.

A four-pound bass was weighed at the caretaker's house for the largest recorded catch of the day. John Dean, a fly-rod expert, reported six bass averaging  $2\frac{1}{4}$  pounds after only forty-five minutes of fishing.

Channels were not biting freely, partly because rain had poured a little muddy surface water into the lake and partly because most of the crowd were fishing from the north side of the lake. The north shoreline tapers to a shallow depth which is more suitable for bass. Members of the Moco club and a few local boat owners were ferrying fishermen to the south shore where deep water is more favorable for channel cats.

Wardens who patrolled the shore line found only one violation. One lone fisherman had a string of twenty channels and was still trying for more when overhauled by the warden.

A hint of the popularity the lake will have when summer arrives was apparent in the endless string of cars and family groups that dotted the entire fifteen-mile shoreline yesterday. The crowd was estimated at more than 1,200 people, some of whom came with camping equipment prepared to remain for the triple holiday. Dozens of boats were bobbing on the wind-swept surface throughout the day, and the clan of boat owners is expected to grow rapidly once the pleasure of speed-boating becomes better known.—*Council Grove Republican*, May 29, 1944.

The meadow lark is the state bird of Kansas.

## A Waterfowl Increase in Numbers

An increase of nearly 400 percent in the population of game species of migratory waterfowl in North America during the past nine years was reported to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes as the result of the Tenth Annual Inventory of Migratory Waterfowl conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with many Federal and State agencies.

Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, director of the Service, reported that the present estimated population 125,350,000 birds was probably the greatest since the early 1920's. At the low point of the so-called "duck depression" in 1934 and 1935 the migratory waterfowl population had fallen to approximately 27,000,000.

Dr. Gabrielson declared that the comeback of these birds was "one of the great achievements of the conservation forces of this country" and that it provided "full refutation of those who believe that conservation is a negative thing."

Among the ducks, he pointed out, the largest increases have been shown by the Mallard and the Pintail. The total population of the Mallard at the present time is between 35 and 40 millions and that of the Pintail is in excess of 20 millions.

Third place is held by the two Scaups, considered together, fourth by the Redhead, fifth by the Baldpate or Widgeon, and sixth by the Black Duck.

The Canvasback and Ruddy Duck also showed satisfactory increases, Dr. Gabrielson said, but decreases were recorded for a few species, including the Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, and Shoveler. These species, with the exception of the Teals, do not rank high as desirable game and the declines noted are not large enough to be cause for any alarm.

The estimates for the goose population do not show any important changes, he said, but the Canada, White-fronted, and Blue Geese all showed some gains in numbers. Apparently there has been an unexplained reduction in the numbers of Snow Geese and of Ross's Goose and a lesser decline among Cackling Geese.

The Whistling Swan population appears to have suffered some losses. "The suggestion has been made," the report stated, "that we may have reached a saturation point for this species for the available habitat, particularly for winter quarters."

"A very heavy increase is again recorded for coot,



Ralph Stephens took the pictured 21-pound and 3-pound channel cats recently from Lake Kahola near Emporia

the indications being that we now have a continental population of these birds that is in excess of 20 millions," it was reported.

Pre-season estimates last year of a southward flight of birds that might total 150 million seem to have been substantially correct since the population loss during the shooting season (hunters' bag, plus lost birds, cripples, etc.) probably reached from 24 to 25 million. While the flight was heavy, in part of the country it was greatly delayed and there were a number of shifts of birds from their normal route South. This led to exceptionally good hunting in parts of the country, and near hunting in others, Dr. Gabrielson said.

Along the Atlantic fly-way a considerable shortage was observed during the shooting season, due to a long delayed movement from the North-central portions of the continent, chiefly the prairie provinces of Canada. In the Mississippi fly-way, for the same reason, poor flights also were recorded in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, while the evidence indicated a heavier than normal migration in Iowa. Reports at Christmas time showed that even that late in the season a great number of birds were still in the North.

Nebraska also showed a heavy migration, Dr. Gabrielson said, and if it had not been for the poor showing in Oklahoma, where lack of water caused the birds to pass through rapidly, the situation in the Central fly-way would be considered entirely satisfactory.

The flight through practically all parts of the Pacific fly-way was good.

"We can take special satisfaction in the re-building of the migratory waterfowl population at this time," Dr. Gabrielson declared, "since we believe that there will be a large increase in the number of hunters after the war. Within a few years after the first World War,

sales of hunting licenses went up nearly one-third. It is reasonable to expect that many thousands of young men in the Army who have been accustomed to the use of fire-arms for the first time, and who have gotten a taste of the outdoors, will want to hunt when they come back home."

### Fishermen Out in Force for Lake Opening

More than 500 sportsmen enjoyed the first day's fishing at Lake Larrabee, the opening day at the Meade County State Lake, Thursday.

Four deputy game wardens, James C. Carlson, Salina; John Shay, Kingman; Jim Andrew, Anthony, and John Holmes, Garden City, checked 315 fishing licenses during the day, so they know there were that many fishermen, and there were many others in the crowd at the lake, most of them fishing all day.

They counted fifteen motorboats and eight rowboats on the lake. Among the fish caught during the opening day were four 6-pound channel cats; many bass up to three pounds, and a six-pound flathead.

The "hottest" fishing spots were the weeds at the north end which were yielding two-pound bass and the little pool below the spillway which gave a four-pound channel cat. Several bass were taken from that pool before fishermen quickly exhausted it.

Looking around, Bill Owens, of the *Meade Globe-News*, spotted three prize channel cats and a fine string of 15 two-pound bass. Kippy McPhail, of Scott City, snagged a 6½-pound channel cat about seventy-five yards from the east short using a black chub on a deep sea outfit.

Wood Peters, of Greensburg, dropped a minnow into the little pool below the spillway and hooked a 4-pound channel. Walter Clay drew a three-pound channel on the east bank.

One of the early birds at the lake was R. H. Fromme, a Plains banker, who was on the job fishing before 8 a. m. Mrs. Pete Worman had a string of two crappie and two bass while Husband Pete was holding an empty box.

The fishermen in the boats out on the lake were catching a few nice channels and cats. "But the boaters were not having any better luck than the shore fishermen until they went up into the neck and cast into weeds when they began to get bass strikes," said Bill Owens.

William H. Mann, of Liberal, was showing a string of six perch; L. E. Bear, of Minneola, who recently caught a 10-pound blue cat in Crooked creek, north of Fowler, had a string of three channel and three bass before 10:30 a. m. Allie Sullivan, of Sublette, caught a string of seven within a few minutes.

Al Brown, Garden City, caught three nice bass on a plug, and then lost his plug to a fourth fish. A string

of 15 two-pound bass were caught from a boat by Robert Joe Brown, of Meade, Guy Milne, of Dodge City, and Rolly Egnert, of Ingalls.

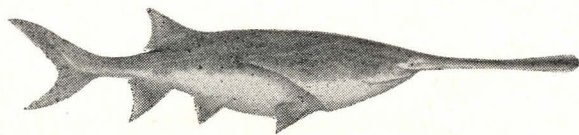
A heavy shower early in the morning may have improved fishing at the lake, but at the same time cut down the number of fishermen. The gravel roads approaching the lake were slick, but passable.

Fishermen were noticed at the lake from Garden City, Dodge City, Hoisington, Ingalls, Plains, Ensign, Sublette, Minneola, Bloom, Kismet, Greensburg, Liberal, Haviland, Mullinville, Laverne, Okla., Montezuma, Kingman, Tulsa, Okla., Emporia, Scott City, Anthony and Salina.

The state fish and game commissioners held a meeting here Friday, those here being Lee Larrabee, of Liberal; H. M. Gillespie, Wichita; H. F. Lutz, Sharon Springs; Jay J. Owens, Salina; Chas. Hassig, Kansas City; and Garland Atkins, Fort Scott.—*Meade Globe-News*.

## Commission Declares Pheasant Season

The Fish and Game Commission meeting at Pratt, April 14, declared a 38-county pheasant season from October 24 to 29, both dates inclusive. The following counties were declared open: Cheyenne, Clay, Cloud, Decatur, Ellis, Finney, Ford, Gove, Graham, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Hodgeman, Jewell, Kearny, Lane, Logan, Marshall, Mitchell, Ness, Norton, Osborne, Pawnee, Phillips, Rawlins, Republic, Rooks, Rush, Russell, Scott, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Thomas, Trego, Wallace, Washington and Wichita. The Commission action in opening seventeen additional counties was occasioned by a large increase of the pheasant population of those counties. Shooting hours this year will be the same as they have been other years, from noon to sunset.



The fish pictured here, the paddlefish, is the most singular and interesting fish found in Kansas water. They are now, however, common to Kansas. Few of them weighing as high as sixty pounds and attaining lengths from four to five feet have been taken from the Missouri, Kaw and Marais des Cygnes rivers. Although the paddlefish is valued chiefly for its roe, which is said to make caviar of a good quality, its flesh is palatable and soft for its food value. The fish is known also by such popular names as spoonbill, shovelhead, duckbill cat and spadefish. Little is known regarding the spawning habits of this fish.



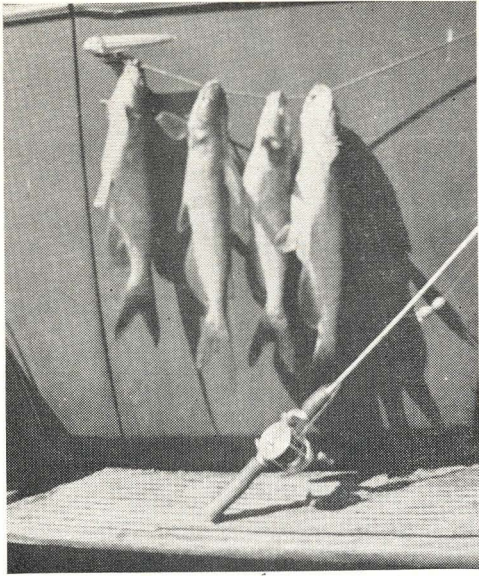
Robt. Granger, Ottawa, took this 14-pound channel cat from the Marais des Cygnes river south of Peoria on a rod.

## Squirrel Season June 15 to November 30

The Fish and Game Commission has again set the legal open season for the taking of squirrels for that period beginning June 15 and continuing through November 30 and setting the daily bag limit at 8; possession limit two days' bag limit.

## The Dying Fisherman

Once a fisherman was dying in his humble, lowly cot, and the pastor sat beside him saying things that hit the spot, so that all his futile terrors left the dying sinner's heart, and he said: "The journey's lonely, but I'm ready for the start. There is just one little matter that is fretting me," he sighed, "and perhaps I'd better tell it ere I cross the Great Divide. I have got a string of stories that I've told from day to day; stories of the fish I've captured, and the ones that got away, and I fear that when I tell them they are apt to stretch a mile; and I wonder when I'm wafted to that land that's free from guile, if they'll let me tell my stories if I try to tell them straight, or will angels lose their tempers then, and chase me through the gate?" Then the pastor sat and pondered, for the question vexed him sore; never such a weird conundrum had been sprung on him before. Yet the courage of conviction moved him soon to reply, and he wished to fill the fisher with fair visions of the sky: "You can doubtless tell fish stories," said the clergyman, aloud, "but I'd stretch them very little if old Jonah's in the crowd."—Walt Mason from the files of the Emporia Gazette.



These eight pounds of channel cats were from the fish recovered from the Nemaha County State Lake.

### From Protector Carlson

Fishing conditions in Ellsworth, Lincoln, Ottawa, Dickinson and Saline counties good.

We believe we have some of the best fishing in the state in these central five counties. Ellsworth county from McPherson county line on the east to Russell county on the west, the Smoky Hill river is sand bottom and you can see the bottom most any place. There are a number of good fishing holes through this county. Especially two to three miles east and west of Ellsworth and south of Wilson you are sure to catch channel cats from twelve to eighteen inches long through here. Ellsworth county also has a number of good lakes and ponds; the county lake near Holyrood has been well stocked. Lincoln county has the Saline river. It is clear most of the time and the fishing is good at Lincoln and Shady Bend dams. Fishermen from all over the state can be found at Shady Bend dam. Channel cats and bullheads are caught on this river. This river has a lot of salt in it and you can taste it. It's the last river in this section to freeze over.

Ottawa county has the Solomon river and it's good fishing the year around. Especially good at Delphos, Minneapolis and Bennington dams. Fishermen come a long way to fish the Bennington dam. This county has a number of good creeks where you can always catch bullheads. The Ottawa State Lake is located a few miles north of Bennington and has been well stocked with channel cats, crappie, bass, etc. Thousands of people visit this lake every year.

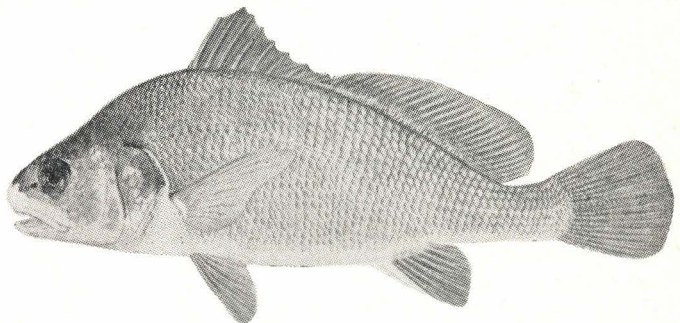
Dickinson county has the Smoky Hill and part of the Solomon river. The Solomon river empties into the Smoky at Solomon. The fishing is good from Solomon to Chapman. The Smoky Hill becomes very deep and wide through this county as its mouth is at

Junction City. This county has a number of good spring-fed creeks, especially north of Herington. The Herington City Lake is one of the best in the state and you will find fishermen from all parts of the state fishing it with good luck. Mostly bass, crappie and channel cats are caught here.

Saline county has the Smoky Hill, Solomon, Saline, Mulberry and other smaller streams. The fishing is good from Lindsborg all through to the Salina dam and on through to its mouth at Junction City. The Salina dam is a popular place for the fishermen. Last year we checked the fishermen for licenses and found over one hundred at this one dam. The Saline and Solomon rivers through this county are also good. The Saline empties into the Smoky Hill at New Cambria.

### Meade County Lake Opened

The Fish and Game Commission has opened the Meade County State Lake to public fishing. This lake, located on an all-weather road a few miles southwest of Meade, had been closed to fishing the past two seasons to permit the carrying out of certain work looking towards the improvement of the lake possibilities. That work included the draining of the lake, the removing therefrom of coarse fish and its replanting of fish of a more desirable species has been completed because of the work done by the Commission. This lake should afford Kansas anglers with good fishing this summer.



This fish, a fresh-water drum, is often erroneously referred to as the white perch. It is one of the largest species of fish found abundantly in many state lakes and a few Kansas streams. They bite readily enough on a crawfish or shrimp and the landing of them is a matter of no little interest to the angler lucky enough to hook one.

The size of a drum usually taken from our state lakes does not weigh greatly in excess of fifteen or twenty pounds. They have gained for themselves the popular and descriptive name of "drum" because of the peculiar grunting noise they make when taken from the water, or that which is frequently heard as they move about in the water.

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

The Nemaha County State Lake near Seneca is a body of water that should not be overlooked by sportsmen casting about for good fishing water this spring. Al Reichert, Lake Superintendent, reports that fishing there has been very good so far this spring. The channel cats, according to Reichert, are beginning to bite and that it has not been unusual for anglers to take their limits within an hour or two of channel cats ranging from one and half to four pounds.

The prospects for a good pheasant hunting season next fall are very encouraging at this time. The writer of this column recently visited many of the western counties ordinarily opened to pheasant hunting, and is surprised at what he saw. Pheasants were everywhere. Along the roadways, in the grain fields, meadows and on the barren prairie. They all seem to be in a strong and healthy condition, and from their numbers it was concluded that they came through the winter in fine shape and in satisfactory numbers.

The flight of migratory waterfowl through Kansas this spring was exceptionally large. We are not competent to explain this phenomena, but we are certain that if 25 percent of the northward bound ducks return next fall, Kansas nimrods will have a good hunting season. Despite the temptations such a large flight of ducks provoked, there were few known cases of illegal spring shooting reported. The game protectors did apprehend a few violators but the number was very small compared with other years.

The Game Department's annual sale of seized and state trapped furs was held at Pratt, April 1. The average price paid for the 173 state-trapped beaver pelts offered at that sale was in the neighborhood of \$28. Beaver blankets, as the large pelts are classed in the fur trade, brought the unusual price of \$56. The Beale Hide and Fur Company of Dodge City was the successful bidder. The number of beavers offered at the sale, as well as the selling price, was lower than the record of last year.

Certain kinds of fish, such as the sunfishes, the bullhead catfishes, and some others, deposit, lay or spawn what are called adhesive or sticky eggs. Eggs of this character may adhere to material in the bottom of nests of such fish as make nests, or to do other things when spawned by fish that do not make nest beds.

The fact that these fish eggs are sticky and adhere to various objects makes it possible for water birds, those that wade and paddle in such places as fish spawn, to get the eggs stuck to their feet and feathers. These birds fly from one body of water to another, carrying the fish eggs with them. In this way ponds and even streams that have no fish in them are said to be sometimes stocked with some of the common varieties of fish. This method of stocking ponds is supposed to account for the fish and other aquatic life found in many ponds that are miles from other bodies of water that have such forms of life in them.

It is this column's opinion that the commission acted wisely in limiting this year's quail season to eleven consecutive days. Although the general game conditions of Kansas at this time are good they are not such as to warrant an extension of the season or the liberalization of bag limits or shooting regulations. The spring rains and floods have restricted nesting to no little degree and because of that fact this year's crop of quail is expected to be below normal. It is for that reason that we think the action of the commission was good.

We don't mind people fussing at us, as a matter of fact we rather enjoy it. However, there does come a time in a man's life when he must "speak out in meeting," and this is one of those times.

It has been said by a few critics of the Game Commission, very few, however, that the state game farm program should be abandoned on the grounds that game farm operation is an expensive undertaking and because of the additional fact that a few states no longer operate such farms. Let's take a look at the record.

A few years ago Kansans were without any bird-hatching facilities whatsoever. Then our game fields were nearly depleted of all forms of game-bird life. To correct that condition and to restock fields that were, despite good feed and cover conditions, birdless, the game department went to Mexico for the Mexican Bob White quail, paying the border importers as high as \$2.50 for each bird delivered to Kansas. Those importations were not successful, as any sportsman or farm lad will tell you. Since our quail farms began to function the state has been systematically stocked with mature birds and the result of those stockings is now apparent. We do have a satisfactory number of quail in Kansas today. The cost of producing quail at the farms is less than \$1.00 per bird. Let's take a look at another and more enlightening record.

For nearly one-half century, Kansas has tried to introduce the ringnecked pheasant into its game bird fields. Only during the years our pheasant farm has

been in operation has any noticeable or worth-while results in that effort been attained. Prior to the time our pheasant farm has been operating live birds have been purchased from abroad, from other states and local game breeders, at a cost ranging from 75¢ for cock birds of questionable quality to \$2.50 and \$3.00 for preferred birds.

One plan carried out for many years was the distribution of pheasant eggs to farmers and sportsmen who applied for them. These eggs were purchased at a price of from 10¢ to 25¢ each, with less than two percent of the eggs being ultimately hatched. The cost of producing high quality ringnecked pheasants at our state pheasant farm at Meade is but slightly in excess of \$1.00 per bird according to cost determination by U. S. Government accountants.

We think that the game farms are an asset to the commission and that they accomplish worthwhile and lasting results in our game bird program. We argue this matter and jot down these figures and facts just to keep the record straight.

Within recent years there has been developed a new method of freezing fish which is called "sharp" or "fast" freezing. This latest development in freezing fish is preferred to the slow freezing method as little of the natural flavor of the fish is lost in the process.

In preparing fish that are "sharp" frozen they should not be thawed but placed directly in the pan, seared on both sides in order that the natural flavor of the fish will not be lost.

The sturgeon, sharing with the puddlefish honors for fearsome appearance, is a fish common to the Missouri river and less common to other Kansas streams. As a matter of fact the distribution of the sturgeon in Kansas is not entirely clear. It is thought to spawn between April and June, probably ascending the smaller streams to complete that act. It is a fish of palatable flesh although only within recent years has it been so regarded. In earlier times anglers and commercial fishermen would catch the sturgeon only for the purpose of destroying it much as we today destroy the river gar. The flesh of the sturgeon is now sold on the markets and its roe is considered valuable in the making of caviar.

## Quail Season November 20 to 30

The 1944 quail season has been set by Commission action for a period of time beginning November 20 and continuing through to November 30.

Daily bag limit is set at 10 birds, possession limit two days' bag limit.

The entire state will again be opened this year.

## Wartime Game Management

There has been much said and written about the subject of game management. Some of it good, some of it bad. Conservation officials are agreed that a little of it goes a long way and, however small the effort, it is usually productive of good and lasting results.

During these days of patriotic and varied effort on the part of sportsmen we realize that they have little time to devote to any task that does not immediately touch upon their everyday business. To the busy sportsman we would recommend as his part in maintaining the game supply, a strict observance to all game laws. A dead hen, now as the nesting season advances, will reduce the game supply of next year from 8 to 10 birds. Sportsmen, therefore not only will refrain from killing game birds, but if foresighted and conscientious will report to game law enforcement officers all game law violations as well.

Farmers can contribute much to the future game supply by restricting spring burning to areas not frequented by nesting game birds. Motorists should watch their driving, particularly on country roads, where young game birds or animals are crossing. Give game the right of way. Observe the game laws. Avoid the destruction of nests—are good wartime game management practices that require but little time and effort and are productive of satisfying and lasting results.

## Form Sportsmen Club

A meeting which was attended by about thirty of the sportsmen residents of Ashland and vicinity, Monday night, resulted in the organization of a club to be known as the Ashland Sportsmen Club.

The meeting had been called by a committee from the Chamber of Commerce composed of H. V. Shrewder, O. L. Spotts, Geo. M. Grimes and O. W. Putter for the purpose of forming such a club. Officers elected were: P. G. Abell, president; H. V. Shewder, secretary-treasurer; R. L. Crosby, W. A. Willard, I. J. Klinger, O. L. Spotts, C. L. Roberts, W. A. Lonker, Earl Haelsing and O. W. Putter, directors.

The membership fee is one dollar per year. Some of the purposes of the club are to aid in improving recreational facilities at the Clark County State Lake, to encourage the sale of fishing and hunting licenses in the county, and to increase interest in sportsmanship in the community. As a bait for increasing interest in the art of fishing the club will give a prize each month to the member of the club who catches the biggest fish that month.—*Clark County Clipper*, June 1, 1944.

Buy your license early.



## A Letter From Bill

DEAR DAVE:

I'm jest a fisherman, Dave—a cane-pole fisherman. An' do I like to fish. This is one year that I'm really comin' to my own. All those fancy fishin' rods and reels is gettin' hard to get an' most likely out fer the duration, so I kin get out that ole cane pole an' strut my stuff now an' be patriotic along with it.

I kin go out with that pole and fish like nobody's business and have more real enjoyment and ketch as many fish as anyone with all those fancy riggins that cost enough to keep me in cane poles fer the rest o' my days. Yep, I'm a cane-pole fisherman.

You kin have all that high-falootin perferalia, but give me a cane pole and a piece o' line with a can o' worms and I kin have as much fun and real fishin' as the next one. If you've never tried cane-pole fishin' just try it out of curiosity, and you will find out somethin' about fishin' that you never knew before.

A cane pole and any place where there is a little water—and there is plenty water anywhere you want to go this year—and you will find bullheads. And where you find bullheads you want a cane pole; and bullhead fishin' is what I calls fine fishin'. Any stream you run across will afford good fishin' this year an' I tell you those bullheads have a good apertite, and when you toss in that hook with plenty o' worm on it you will soon find out what I mean. And when you come home with a string o' bullheads you got yourself some mighty fine eatin'.

Jest take a long, limber cane pole the next time you feel the urge to go a fishin'. A long pole with a piece o' line the length o' the pole and you kin jest about put yer line any place you want it—jest like them fly fishermen, you kin use the same technique, too, fer when there aint much action you jest wiggle the pole a little and that long, limber action o' yer pole will move the bait jest enough to call it to the attention of anything that might be around—you know, jest like that wrist action them fly fishermen use, only they don't tell you that it is the old, original action taken from the old-time cane-pole fishermen.

If you want to insure yerself a day of real fun pick out one of them close, sultry days and hie yerself down to the creek—you know, one of them days when the skeeters is buzzin' aroun' yer head, the clouds is hangin' low and it looks like it might shower a little—if yer fraid o' gettin' wet, better take along yer slicker—an' I'll promise you that you'll have some real fishin'—bullhead fishin'—fer them is the days that they really get full o' pep and like to move around. And when you hook a nice one on that limber pole you'll be surprised at the strength o' them fish in the water—an' action—oh, boy, you really get it. It don't take a big un to give you action, fer the Good Lord gave them fish something that nothin' else has,

and a fish in water is plenty powerful. That's why I like a long, limber cane pole, fer then I get the full benefit of fly-rod action.

Oh, yes, I have fished with spinners, spoons and plugs, an' admit it is sport, but fer real fun I'll take my cane pole and wander off down the creek a ways, sprawl out on the grassy bank and drop in my hook and have all the peace an' contentment that man kin enjoy on this earth. An' if I don't ketch anythin' I still have had a great day out of doors, which in itself is a tonic that no money can buy.

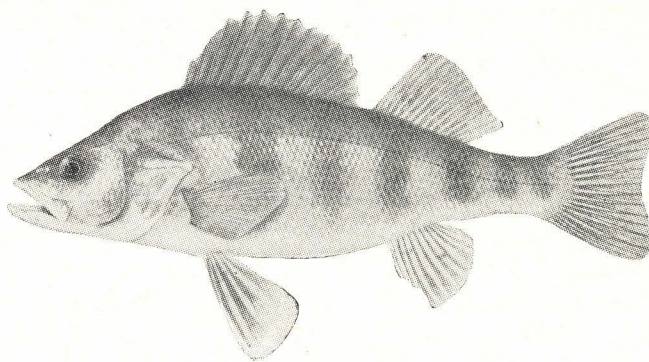
Yep, Dave, I'm a cane-pole fisherman and me an' my cane pole are really goin' to town this year.

BILL.

## Neosho County Lake Heavily Stocked with Fish

Anticipating another year of heavy lake usage by anglers of southeast Kansas the commission recently re-stocked the Neosho County State Lake with 5,000 fish of various size. This additional supply of fish for that lake included bass, crappie and channel cat.

The cover picture of this issue of KANSAS FISH AND GAME pictorially records that stocking. The Neosho County State Lake, the first to be built by the State Fish and Game Commission, is located near St. Paul and Parsons, Kan.



The yellow or ring perch pictured above, although essentially a lake fish, occurs abundantly in many of the larger streams of Kansas. As a pan fish it has no equal. Its flesh is white, firm and of a delicious flavor. One does not tire of eating this fish as is the case with so many other Kansas fish.

The ring perch can be taken on any manner of bait and will rise freely to the artificial fly and other such fishing tackle. It is not a fierce fighter as its small size precludes that characteristic. This fish rarely obtains a length of more than seventeen inches or a weight greater than two pounds. The average ring perch taken from Kansas waters will weigh less than one pound and measure between six and ten inches. It bites readily, as already stated, on all manners of bait and during any and all seasons.

## ARRESTS IN MARCH AND APRIL, 1944

DEFENDANT	CHARGE	PROTECTOR	DISPOSITION
O. W. Arnold .....	Fishing without license .....	Carlson .....	Convicted
W. E. Dillinger .....	Failure to keep complete fur record .....	Kiefer-Jones .....	Convicted
Bill Fronce .....	Selling fur without trapping license .....	Kiefer-Jones .....	Convicted
W. K. Evans .....	Taking geese in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
Robert Muller .....	Taking geese in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
Thornton McClain .....	Taking geese in closed season and without license .....	Benander, Ramsey .....	Convicted
Rolland Parr .....	Taking ducks in closed season .....	Benander, Ramsey, Meroreka, .....	Convicted
LeRoy Parr .....	Taking ducks in closed season and without license .....	Benander, Ramsey .....	Convicted
Ed Cord .....	Illegal fishing .....	Benander, Ramsey .....	Convicted
C. L. Emert .....	Taking ducks in closed season and without license .....	Benander .....	Convicted
Paul Zimmer .....	Taking ducks in closed season .....	Benander .....	Convicted
Ozro Clark .....	Selling fur without proper license .....	Carlson .....	Convicted
Arch Allen .....	Possession of fur in closed season and trapping by a nonresident .....	Toburen .....	Convicted
Fred Suckey .....	Selling furs without proper license .....	Holmes .....	Convicted
W. L. Cross .....	Hunting game birds in closed season and without license .....	Suenram, Ramsey .....	Convicted
Chester H. Crain .....	Possession of ducks in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
Harold Schneider .....	Selling pelts without license .....	Kiefer .....	Convicted
LeRoy Penner .....	Fishing without license .....	Suenram .....	Convicted
D. L. Walker .....	Fishing without license .....	Carlson .....	Convicted
Joe Wolf .....	Selling pelts without license .....	Kiefer, Jones .....	Convicted
Joe Kaiser .....	Selling pelts without license .....	Kiefer, Jones .....	Convicted
W. M. Duranow .....	Selling pelts without license .....	Kiefer, Jones .....	Convicted
Herbert Holste .....	Possession and shipping of fur in closed season .....	Kiefer, Faulkner, Jones .....	Convicted
Martin Goertzen .....	Fishing without license .....	Suenram .....	Convicted
Harold Townsend .....	Selling pelts without license .....	Kiefer .....	Convicted
Francis Bailey .....	Selling fur without license .....	Rickel, Piggott .....	Convicted
Byron Myers .....	Shooting pheasant .....	Faulkner .....	Convicted
Harold Proffitt .....	Hunting ducks in closed season .....	Suenram, Carlson .....	Convicted
C. W. Westmoreland .....	Fishing without license .....	Andrew .....	Convicted
Thomas J. Shotwell .....	Taking fur-bearing animals in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
Lewis Puckett .....	Hunting ducks in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
O. W. Burton .....	Hunting ducks in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted
Deon Pucket .....	Hunting wild ducks in closed season .....	Rickel .....	Convicted

### Dear Dave

In Wilson county the prairie chicken are increasing but as yet are too few to be hunted. I think there should be a closed season on chicken in this county. There are about 75 chicken in the county in about four localities.

The quail situation is not so good. Opening the season the three days in December was bad for the quail. We usually feed them during storms and bad weather, but this year there was a heavy snow during the three-day late season and the pot hunters just about cleaned them out. I have hunted quail over the same territory for the last 40 years and they are about as scarce now as in any previous year. I am not in favor of a hunting season after November. I keep bird dogs and have hunted quail here since I was a kid but a few more open seasons in December like we had last year and quail hunting here will be something we can remember but not do.—WM. L. STRYKER.

### New Licenses Ready

The 1945 fishing, hunting and trapping licenses and quail stamps will be available to sportsmen prior to June 30, the expiration date of the 1944 licenses. Such licenses and stamps will be sold at the county clerks' offices and at many hardware and sporting goods dealers as well. During these days of clerk and labor shortages sportsmen are urged to buy whatever licenses are needed for the year on one trip to the courthouse. We would especially recommend that those who intend to fish and hunt during the forthcoming fiscal year, purchase the combination fishing and hunting licenses. The combination license was devised not only for the convenience of the anglers and hunters, but for the additional two-fold purpose of conserving paper and the time of issuing agent. Licenses purchased now will not expire until June 30, 1945.

Send us a picture of your catch.

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## FISHING

Do you ever go a fishing as you did when once a boy,  
Walk through fields with Mother Nature, all her beauties to enjoy,  
To the stream where gurgling waters over graveled riffles flow,  
To aereate with freshness your favorite hole below?  
Where you sat among the willows of your beloved shady nook,  
With your pole and line unlimbered you'd drop in a baited hook.  
Then you'd wait in happy silence for your cork to start to bob—  
A sign to pay attention—it's a bullhead's friendly nod.  
If you got there when they're feeding you'd not have long to wait,  
For that's when they mean business, and they really took your bait.  
For awhile they'd keep you busy and your heart would really sing  
As you strolled on home a whistling, showing off your well-filled string.

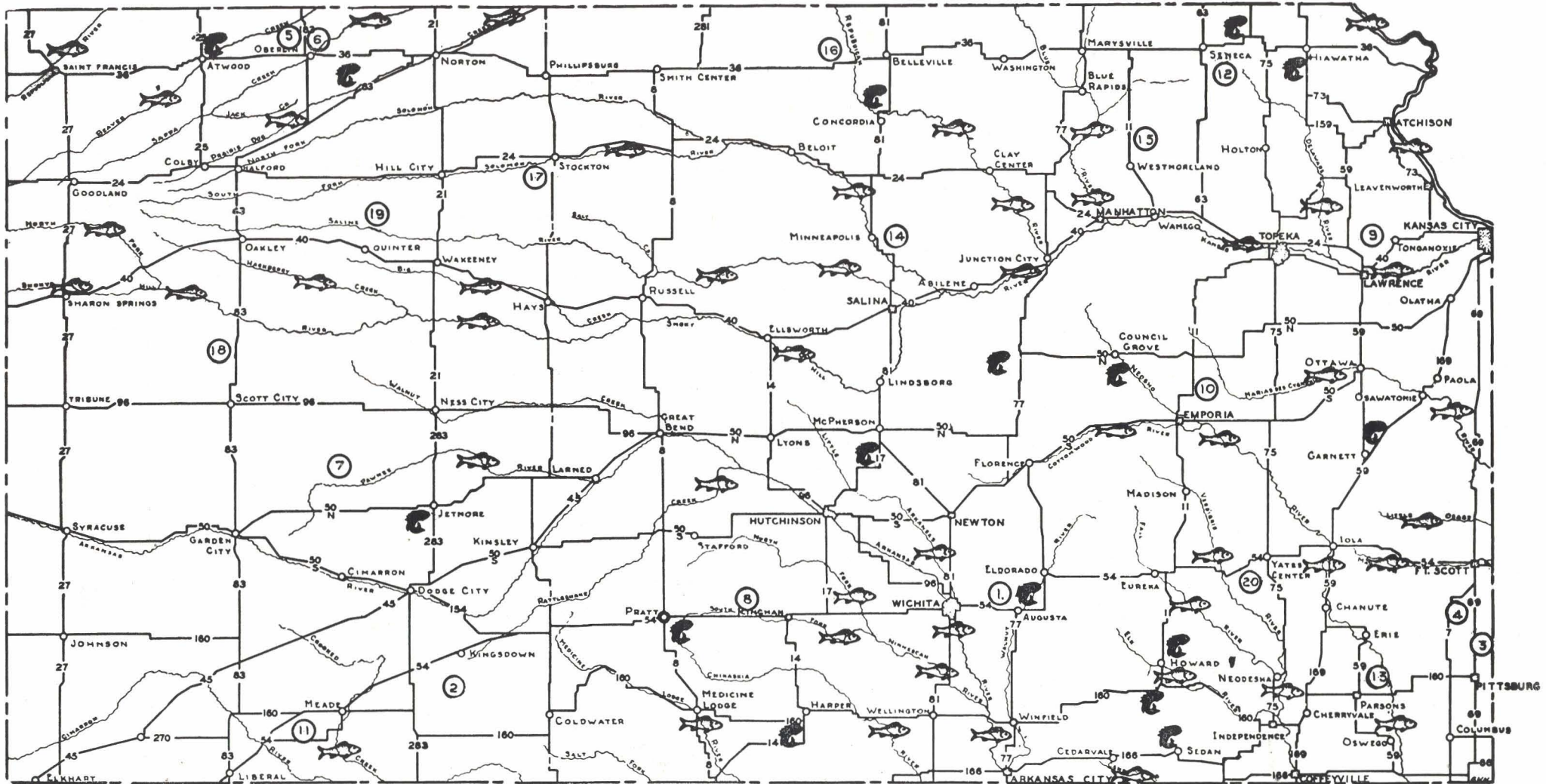
\* \* \* \*

If you do not go a fishing as you did in days long gone,  
Just try it for old time's sake and take along your son,  
And live again those happy hours of carefree days of yore,  
Enjoy a day with your own son and be a boy once more.  
For after all you're just a boy howe'er grown and mature,  
You'll find it's been a day of peace—a day well spent, I'm sure.  
A day such as you've never had since you began to roam,  
A day that's full of memories of boyhood days back home.  
Or try it for your own sake in these times of strife and stress,  
You'll get a day of peace of mind and that much-needed rest.  
And you'll begin to realize the day's not spent in vain  
And soon be planning for the day when you'll go out again.

—*W. B. Skibbe.*

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# KANSAS FISHING LAKES AND STREAMS



**② State Lakes**

**City and County Lakes**

**River and Stream Fishing**

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

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

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