

KANSAS FISH & GAME



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You Can Help

It is said that the littering we find along our stream banks, lakesides and roadways is caused by a mobile America on the move in the quest of pleasure. The mobility of the 20th century may have resulted in the widespread distribution of the cans, bottles and wrappers which are a part of modern packaging, but the *cause* lies much deeper than the high speed automobile and the shorter working week. The explanation for the mounds of refuse blighting Kansas and America today must be looked for in the minds and hearts of men and women.

What kind of an attitude fosters this blight on the face of the countryside? In some cases it must arise from a complete lack of awareness on the part of the guilty that they are abusing the dignity of America. In other cases, an attitude of indifference must be the principal cause.

Education can improve the situation, especially with those who are uninformed or unaware but what can be done with those who do not care? This is a major problem facing the nation today and you, as a good sportsman can help. First, make sure that you set a good example for others. Second, make sure that your children understand the problem and realize that they must take an active part in preventing the littering of our recreation areas and roads. Third, join in any activity which will call attention to the shamefulness of littering. By these means, the "litterbug" can be stamped out.

G. V.

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Kansas and the Great Northern

By JOHN RAY, *Fishery Biologist*

During the past two decades much emphasis has been placed upon flood control and water conservation with the subsequent construction of many large lakes and reservoirs within the state of Kansas. These large reservoirs and lakes support many different species of fish and anglers annually harvest many tons of fish from these impoundments. Since many of these impoundments are large, deep and present varied types of fish habitat, the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission has and is experimentally stocking those fishes which are more normally associated with the colder waters to the north, the walleye and the northern pike.

Walleye were the first of these two fish to be introduced to Kansas waters and the walleye has become well established in many of the older and newly completed Kansas reservoirs. The growth of the walleye in most of the reservoirs to which they were introduced has been rapid, and fishermen are harvesting many of these large game and very palatable fish.

The northern pike was first introduced to Kansas waters by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission when 3¾ million northern pike fry were stocked in Tuttle Creek Reservoir during the spring of 1962. This stocking was further supplemented by the addition of one million more fry during the spring of 1963. The growth of these northern pike like the walleye has been exceptional and northern weighing up to 14 lbs. have been caught from the reservoir. Northern pike were stocked in Norton and Council Grove reservoirs during the spring of 1965. These northern, like those in Tuttle Creek, have experienced very rapid growth and many of these northern pike became mature enough to spawn when less than one year of age. Artificial methods of propagation were applied to these fish

during the spring of 1966, and a small number of northern pike fry were hatched from the eggs taken from these fish.

Many Kansas fishermen who are not familiar with the northern pike have questions concerning this fish and most of these questions are relative to the appearance, gameness, catchability and palatability of this fish. Other questions are relative to how the introduction of this fish will affect fishing and the populations of other fish in Kansas waters.

First of all the northern pike or great northern as it is sometimes called is a true pike and is the second largest member of the pike family, which includes the smaller pickerel and the larger and mighty muskellunge. Although the muskellunge grows much larger, the northern is also capable of attaining quite large size, and specimens weighing 40 lbs., 4½ feet in

length have been reported taken by fishermen.

The shape of the northern pike can best be described as "garlike" especially when the pike are small as both fish are long, lean and somewhat torpedo shaped. The placement of dorsal fin is similar in both the gar and northern as this single top fin is located far back and just in front of the tail on both fish, however, the similarity ends there. The front part of the head or snout of the pike is flat, broad and "duck billed" in appearance. Manifest in the lower jaw are long sharp teeth and in the upper jaw, the teeth curve inward thus enabling the pike to hold its prey and allowing escape in only one direction, down the gullet of the pike. The color of the pike is variable depending upon such factors as water color, clarity and the depth at which the pike abounds. The color varies from a light brownish



Taking eggs from northern. George Whitaker looks on while Bob Hartmann strips eggs. Clyde Ukele assists in the operation.

green or gray to a olivacious green on the back and sides with regular rows of light yellow or gold spots. The belly of the pike is most generally yellowish-white in color.

The northern pike is a voracious, cannibalistic predator and possesses almost a gluttonous appetite. Owing to its shape and long muscular body, the pike is a powerful and very fast swimming fish, whose speed is matched by very few fish found in fresh water.

Few fish escape the rush of the pike including other smaller pike which might be near enough to be seized in its powerful jaws.

Northern pike begin to move from the deep water into the shallow waters during the early spring when the water temperatures approach 40° F. Spawning most generally occurs in shallow sloughs or backwater areas where vegetation has been covered with water, and spawning may occur under the ice or while the ice is breaking up. In the more northern states, northern pike may not spawn before they are 2 to 3 years of age and the average female pike would lay between 30 and 35 thousand eggs. While over the spawning bed a large female is often accompanied by two or more males and the female emits her eggs randomly upon the underlying vegetation. The males emit milt in much the same maner and the eggs are fertilized as they are deposited. The spawning activity of pike may be characterized by some thrashing about of the parent fish and the eggs, when emitted, possess an adhesive so that



Young northern pike female being stripped of eggs. Fish is less than one year old and weighs approximately 2½ pounds. Norton Reservoir.

they stick to vegetation as they contact it. Hatching may require from 6 to 15 days depending upon the water temperature.

Most fishermen who have caught large numbers of northern pike describe the northern as a very powerful and game fish that, when hooked and caught in shallow water, may tend to become an aerial acrobat. These same fishermen advise against the use of light tackle for the beginner, and suggest that a steel leader be used whenever the possibility of catching northern exists. The sharp teeth of the pike will make shreds of most fishing lines. Northern are most often caught in daylight around weed beds in water 1 to 10 feet in depth, where they lurk waiting upon some hapless fish. Large spoons, spinners, jigs and surface lures are preferred, artificial lures and small fish or minnows are most often used as live bait.

The palatibility of the northern pike is described as first rate, however, many fishermen complain about the large unnumber of bones found especially in small fish. Northern pike less than 20 inches in length tend to yield very little meat for the fisherman and it is not until they reach this size that they tend to grow heavier in body. Northern pike are probably dressed in many ways, including skinning, fileting or slabbing. Slabbing appears to be a preferred method of

cleaning large northern pike. The fish are gutted and the fins removed including the head. The remaining portion of the body of the pike is frozen and then cut in sections throughout its length. These sections when deep fat fried are said to be most palatable.

Judging from creel surveys made in the more northern states, the northern pike is quite easily caught and especially while they are small. Lunker northern, like most large fish, are usually caught by those fishermen familiar with the habits of this fish.

As was mentioned earlier, the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission is experimentally stocking the northern pike to determine if this highly predaceous fish can and will tend to control the large numbers of rough fish found in our reservoirs. Nebraska has found the northern to be an exceptionally good predator and valuable in controlling the rough fish population in their reservoirs and lakes. If the addition of the northern pike provides an effective means of controlling rough fish in our reservoirs, fishing for all species should improve including the northern pike. Rough fish by their presence in large numbers tend to inhibit the growth, reproduction and survival of the more desirable game fish and destroy the habitat potential for those fishes other than rough fish.



Milt being removed from male northern at Norton Reservoir. 11-month-old fish.

King of the Road

By RUSSELL HULL, Hill City, Kansas

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following story was sent to us by a satisfied archery hunter who wanted to share his experiences. Our thanks to him and we hope you enjoy his story as much as we did.)

If the title of this story sounds like the name of a hit song you might be familiar with, it's partly because it is—and the story behind it started like this . . .

It was late summer and a little on the cold side, but otherwise a clear and beautiful morning when I first saw the "King of the Road," the deer that was to become known to me by that name.

I had set out a little before day-break that particular morning, with hopes of finding the deer I was sure to be close by if the signs were any indication.

It was a week before our first deer season was to open in Kansas, the first season to be held since the turn of the century. The season was to start October 1, 1965, and run through November 15 for archers, and a gun season was to follow in December.

I had been shooting a bow for about

seven years, but had never hunted much with it. I applied for a license with the idea in mind that if sometime in the season I saw a deer, maybe I would be lucky enough to get in a shot or two. At that time I wasn't too excited about the whole thing. A few days and a few experiences later, however, I'm afraid I had a different outlook.

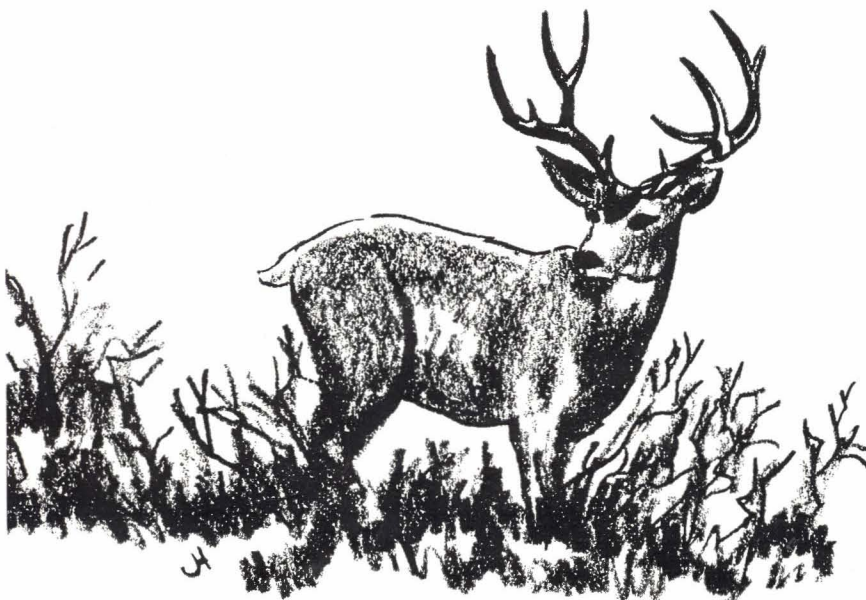
While I was out that first morning, I climbed a big cottonwood tree in order to get a better look, and was that tree high! From the tree, I looked around with a pair of binoculars for about thirty minutes before spotting two bucks about 150 yards to the south of me. I watched the two deer feed for a few minutes and then they stepped into the brush out of sight. I watched for another hour and, feeling sure the deer had gone, I decided to walk over to the place where I had first seen the deer to pick out a tree to be used as a stand.

I was about seventy yards from the spot when I saw only the head and antlers of a deer which was looking



straight at me. I quickly dropped on my knees into some waist high grass and raised my binoculars to watch the deer. He never moved once in ten long minutes, just stared straight at me and I stared back! The old fellow must have heard me coming through the tall grass, but couldn't quite make out what it was that had aroused his curiosity. The spell was broken when a doe, which I hadn't seen until now, stepped out of the brush between us. The big buck walked up to the doe and continued on past her walking straight towards me. He came up within thirty yards of me and stood on a little rise, with the doe and smaller buck just a little ways behind him.

It was now that I began to realize the size of the big whitetail and what a set of antlers he had even though they were covered with velvet. But to be honest, at that moment I guess



any deer that close would have looked all of ten feet tall!

Yes, there was no doubt about it, I was coming down with a hunter's disease called "Buck Fever." While driving home that morning I saw four more deer. This didn't help my peace of mind one little bit.

At dawn the next morning I watched the sun rise while perched high in a tree which I had picked out the morning before. I scanned the brush and trees with my binoculars, watching for the movement of a deer but saw nothing.

While I was listening and looking around from the tree, the words of a hit song kept running through my mind. Being a part time musician, words or melodies of new songs often did this to me, so it was nothing new.

About an hour went by and nothing happened. Then over a little rise about seventy yards away I saw the tops of antlers moving through the tall grass. A herd of deer was headed straight for my tree. There were three does and three bucks, one the big buck I had seen the day before. The six deer came within forty yards of me and were unaware of my presence. For awhile I watched them browsing and feeding nearby and noticed the big buck was always watching over the herd as though he were a sentry. He was always on the alert, and was without a doubt the "King" of the herd.

After a few minutes the deer moved on up the trail, and left me engrossed in my thoughts of the big whitetail. He had really fascinated me.

Then the words of the song started running through my mind again, and all of a sudden it came to me, the name for the big buck! I would call him "King of the Road," the title of the hit song.

The season opened a week later finding me on the midnight shift at the power plant where I work. I live near Hill City in the northwest part of the state. Beside working at the plant I also do some farming. Because of the fall rains at that time, wheat planting had been delayed. So, as it turned out, I was busy during the first week of the season.

During the weeks that followed, I did quite a lot of hunting for white-

tails along the South Solomon river. We have both white-tailed and mule deer in this area, but the mule deer seem to stick to the open country mostly in pastures, fields, etc. While I was hunting I saw deer 21 times, for a total of 55 deer but I probably saw the same deer several times. I saw the "King of the Road" six times during the season. One particular morning still remains in my mind. I had set out for a tree stand on the south side of the river only a couple of miles from home. I had used this stand a couple of times before but had had no luck. When I came within a quarter of a mile of the spot, I noticed a farmer had started baling hay the evening before only a few yards from the tree. Thinking the deer might have crossed the river, I drove about six miles around to another stand directly across the river on the south side. You guessed it! The big buck walked to within a few yards of my stand on the north side of the river. I was less than one hundred yards from him with the river in between us.

You can guess where I was the next morning, can't you? That's right, in the tree where I saw the "King of the Road" pass while I watched helplessly on the other side of the river. Well, it so happened, I had two tree stands on this side of the river about two hundred yards apart. While I was sitting in one of these trees, I had the opportunity of watching a small buck for thirty-five minutes while he practically ate the limbs off of a cottonwood tree in which my other stand was located.

It was so still out that morning a deer could have heard a pin drop at that distance, so I just sat and enjoyed the show!

Bright and nearly the next morning I was patiently waiting in the cottonwood tree the small buck had tried to digest into one meal the morning before. The sun had just peeked over the horizon to the east, when I spotted the same small buck coming towards me about fifty yards away.

I quickly pulled an arrow from my quiver and nocked it on the string of my 45 lb. bow. The small buck walked slowly broadside to me only thirty-five yards away. I pulled the

bow to full draw but, from the tree, I couldn't get in the right position for a good shot. I remembered watching the same deer feed around the same tree for thirty-five minutes the day before. So, I said to myself, "Take it easy, Russell, don't get in a hurry. Wait and get a good shot."

Well, this morning the deer had other ideas. He just kept walking around the backside of my tree, right out of range! I decided I'd better get down out of the tree and cut in ahead of him before he worked his way on down the river.

This I did, but a little too hastily, I'm afraid. The deer heard me and was gone in a flash, giving me his white flag. I climbed back up in the tree again and had not been there two minutes until here came the same deer at full speed circling the area at about two hundred yards. He had come back for another look to see what had triggered his panic button. So with head held high and eyes searching over every bush and every blade of grass, he started walking towards my tree again.

I thought as long as he had come back to give me another chance, I might as well do my part. Well, I tried but I missed. He was out about sixty yards this time, and my arrow went a little too high. He stopped, looked my way and started walking again. I quickly nocked a second arrow and led him just a little. It was a mistake! The buck heard the "twang" of the bow string and stopped right in his tracks as my arrow flew by right in front of him. By this time the buck decided to take off, leaving me with just another story about the one that got away.

About a week later I was hunting down the river about five miles from where I had been spending a lot of my time, when I found a real good deer trail. I guess it could best be described as a four lane highway for deer. I decided on building a tree stand so I found a likely tree and did just that.

Early the next morning I left home in the dark and had gone about a mile when I had some minor car trouble costing me twenty valuable minutes. Just at dawn, I strung my bow and started down the river to my

tree stand some half a mile away. When I was within one hundred yards of the tree stand, I suddenly heard water splashing in the river next to me. I looked through the brush to see a real nice buck crossing the river. I tried to find a place to shoot from, but there was no way I could get a shot because of the brush and trees. The buck came up the bank about sixty yards down from me and started up the trail passing right under my tree stand. "Darn that car!" If I hadn't lost that twenty minutes I would have been in that tree. "Oh well ----."

As you can probably see by now, about all I ever brought home was wild stories and I was subject to a lot of ribbing around home as well as away from home. But they just didn't know how much fun I was having!

I remember one night sitting around the supper table with my wife and two girls and deer was the subject of conversation. I had mentioned the fact that if I got a deer I was going to take the youngest girl's picture with it since she wouldn't be in school and my other girl, a first grader, would be. My youngest daughter spoke up and said, "Why, Daddy, I'll be in school next year!" With only one week left in the season, I thought she had summed it up pretty well.

One evening a couple of days later, after I got off work, I was hunting out of a tree stand located in the corner of a neighbor's milo field. At about 5:15 p. m., I spotted a doe and her half grown fawn about two hundred yards to the north of me, feeding along the bank of the river. Shortly after I spotted the deer with my binoculars, I watched two pheasants come out and play around with the two deer for nearly forty minutes. I would have loved to have had a good camera.

Just at dusk the two deer started slowly working their way to the corner of the milo field. It kept getting darker and later until I realized that I should go home, but there stood the doe and fawn. I couldn't climb down without showing myself, so all I could do was wait. At 6:45 p. m. they walked directly under the tree, not 15 feet from me. It was too late to shoot so I let them pass.

With only four days left in the sea-



Here is Russell Hull with his 250-pound buck taken near Hill City, Kansas, last fall.

son I was still using the tree stand by my neighbors milo field. Early one morning I spotted a small buck crossing an alfalfa field, heading for the river about seventy yards away. I climbed out of the tree and started stalking the buck, using a fence row for cover. When I had reached the river there was no sign of the buck, so I decided to wait by a well-used deer trail that came out into a small wheat field. I sat there about thirty seconds when I saw the same small buck step out of the brush behind me, and start across the small wheat field. It was about a sixty-five yard shot and the arrow fell a little too low. I was kneeling down in shooting position and had no cover, only the fence row behind me, yet the deer didn't see me. He just kept on walking across the field. I got up and walked out to get the arrow when to my surprise I saw the "King of the Road" stepping out into the field, just as the smaller buck was leaving.

I quickly knelt down in shooting position and could hardly believe it when he came right out across the field headed straight for me. This was just too much! What I wouldn't have given for a bush to hide behind.

There was a real strong wind blow-

ing in my face and this was in my favor. The buck kept coming towards me, and I was shaking like a leaf in a rain storm. There I was out in the wide open without any cover and my heart beating loud enough to be heard a mile away!

He came up to about thirty-five yards, looked at me a few seconds and turned his head. I knew if I was ever going to do it, it better be now. I quickly released an arrow that fell a little too low, hitting right at his feet. Just too much buck fever I guess!

Later on that day while at work at the power plant, I was making the daily check of the water wells when I noticed some fresh deer tracks. It was not uncommon to see deer tracks there, but to me this meant the deer were moving up and down the river across my farm to my neighbor's milo field. Each day I would erase the tracks and the next day there would be fresh tracks again.

So that evening I picked out a tree along the river to be used as a stand the next morning. The tree was located on my farm about ten yards from the river bank. The deer had been moving up and down the river

using some waste land between the river bank and my pasture fence.

The next morning was the first day of pheasant season here in Kansas. It was the 13th of November with only two more days of deer season left. Somehow today, I just had to do the trick.

At dawn I was looking around with binoculars from the tree located in my pasture. For awhile nothing happened then all of a sudden, as if from out of nowhere, there stood the "King of the Road" in my neighbor's pasture about 100 yards away. He jumped the fence and entered my pasture at an angle; he then jumped another fence and started up the river bank away from me.

I climbed down out of the tree in a flash, and started to follow him. I was about ten feet from the tree when I saw his antlers moving through some weeds. He had turned and was now coming down the river bank.

I quickly drew an arrow, nocked it and knelt down in shooting position. Now I could see the whole deer and what a beautiful animal he was. The big buck was walking at a good pace through some tall sunflowers. I could see an opening in the weeds and held for that spot. I held the bow at full draw for ten seconds or so, till the big buck reached the spot. I released the arrow and all "H - -" broke loose. I heard the "thud" of the arrow as it hit, and in about three leaps the buck was down the six foot river bank and standing on the other side of the river. He just stood there for a few seconds, as though he were in a trance and I was sure I had a good hit. I found part of my arrow which had been broken off in the brush only six feet or so from where he had been shot.

I glanced at my watch, it was 7:15 a. m. I was to be at work at the plant at eight o'clock, so I first drove home, called the plant and made arrangements to have someone stay over a couple of hours for me.

My wife and a friend from the plant went with me to look for the deer. After a few minutes we located the first blood sign where he had reached the river bank and stopped. There was no doubt about it from all that blood he wasn't going far! It was now about thirty minutes after he had been

hit, so we started following the blood trail.

We followed the trail for about 70 yards across a sand bar and were nearing some grass when we all saw him at about the same time. We were just a little too soon. He wasn't quite bled out and got up and went another 100 yards and fell over right in a road which was near a local sandpit. Another arrow placed in the back of his neck ended my first year's deer season.

I had shot the first arrow at a distance of about twenty yards hitting the rib cage at an angle and penetrating about nine inches, just an inch above the heart. The second arrow penetrated about 12 inches. The buck went about two hundred yards from where I had shot him.

The "King of the Road" turned out to be an old whitetail, around eight or nine years old. He had a total of 11 points and weighed 201 pounds dressed.

This was one of the biggest thrills I have experienced and I wanted to share part of this thrill with you by writing this story.

I might add that Kansas archers took 164 deer out of a total of 1,151 permits issued to bow hunters. This is a 14 percent hunter success figure which is considered very good.

Here's hoping that "Lady Luck" is still around next year.

'Golden Passport' Bargain For Outdoor Enthusiasts

A "Golden Passport" to the nation's top outdoor recreation areas represents the greatest bargain yet for campers, hikers, boaters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts.

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The federal recreation area en-

trance permit, however, is much more than just a bargain for the outdoor-minded public. It is also an investment in the outdoor recreation future of the United States because the money from its sale goes into the land and water conservation fund.

This fund, which is also supported by receipts from the sale of surplus federal land and a tax on motor boat fuels, will provide a major boost for the Nation's outdoor recreation resources. Forty percent of the fund will be used to create additional federal recreation areas such as national parks, recreational facilities at federal reservoirs, and others. Sixty percent of the fund will go to states, counties, and municipalities in the form of recreation grants to be matched 50-50 from local revenues.

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TROPHY FISH

When you catch a mounting-size lunker, don't clean it before sending it to the taxidermist; cleaning will ruin it. Wrap it carefully in a wet cloth and freeze it, then ship it packed in dry ice. The taxidermist will correct any color it loses.



Typical of the "D. J." Federal Aid projects is Bourbon County State Lake. 75 percent of the funds needed to build this impoundment were provided from the federal excise tax on fishing tackle.

Federal Aid to Wildlife

what it means to Kansas sportsmen

By OLIVER GASSWINT

Federal aid to education, highways, public health and innumerable other state and local programs, seems to be a way-of-life in modern America. This is no less true in the field of fish and wildlife management.

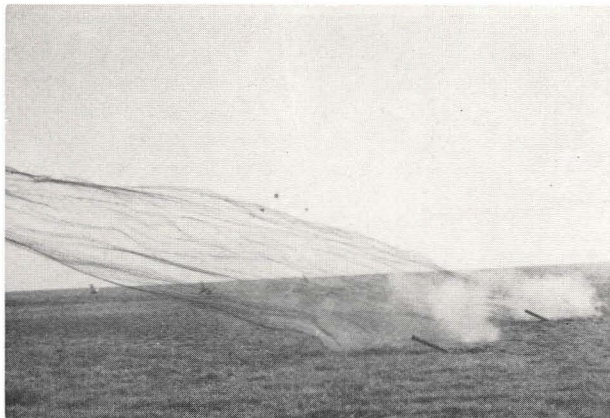
Toward the end of the "Great Depression" and the drought of the "Dirty 30's," sportsmen, conservationists and legislators became conscious of a critical need for intelligent plan-

ning in the conservation and use of all natural resources. Rangelands were severely overgrazed, antiquated farming practices plus wind and water erosion were depleting our soils at an alarming rate, the philosophy of "cut out and get out" still ruled in the lumber industry and wildlife had to be content with second-best or worse.

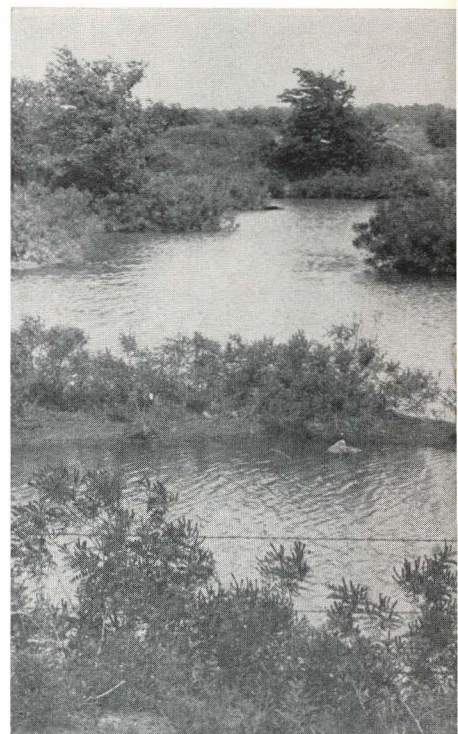
The day of the professional wild-

lifer was still to come. State conservation agencies, with few exceptions, were at the mercy of commercial and political interests. Financially and administratively, these agencies were in dire straits and unable to assume their responsibilities to the sporting public.

As a result of these conditions and an ensuing awareness of immediate and future needs, the Congress passed

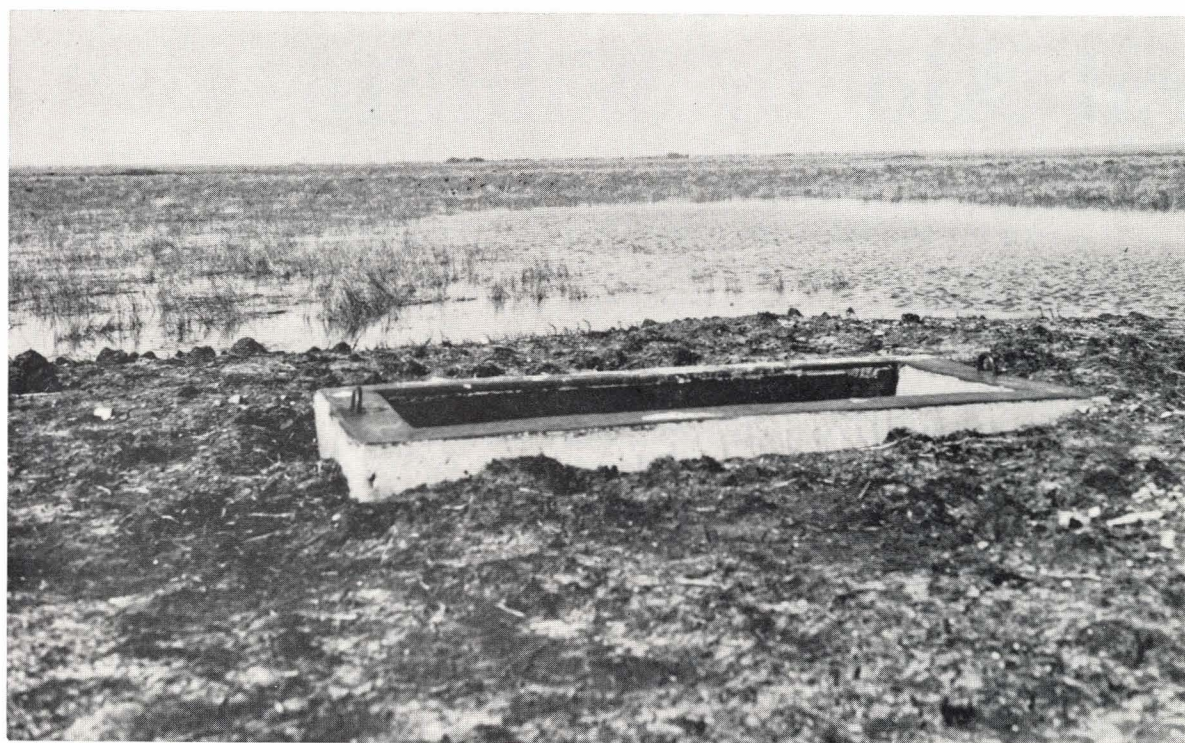


Prairie chickens are trapped by a large cannon net to aid biologists in their study of the birds. The prairie chicken research is a project utilizing Pittman-Robertson funds.



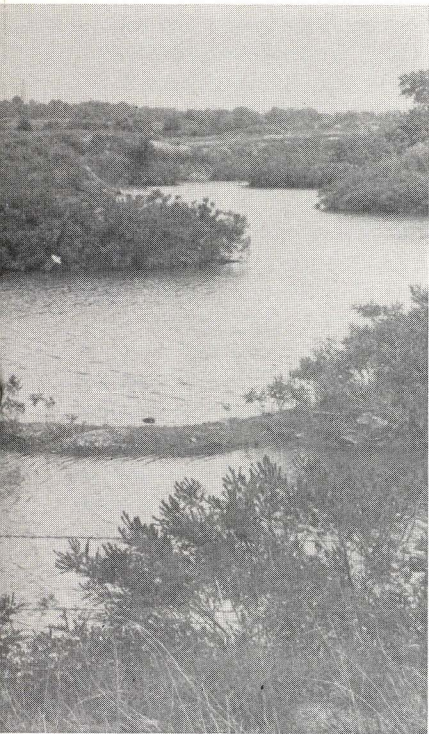
Scenery, blended with exceptional opportunities—that's the strip pit a sizeable project, including a recently been completed in the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game

Wild turkeys were stocked in ten locations in the Sunflower State last winter. The aim of the program is to develop large enough flocks so that a turkey season can be opened at some time in the future.



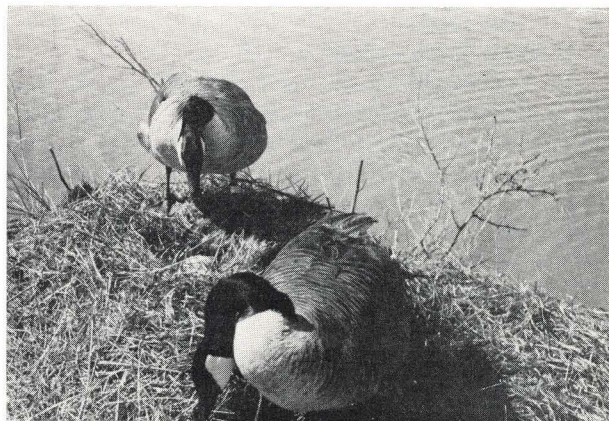
Waterfowl hunting at its best in the Cheyenne Bottoms from 1910 to 1920. The lake is similar to the one pictured. The lake is located in the three pools of water used for waterfowl hunting.

A popular state lake in Montgomery County, Kansas. Some of the features of the lake are shown in the photo. Other state lakes in Kansas are also built with federal aid funds.



al hunting and fishing oppor-
 area of southeast Kansas. A
 less roads and facilities, has
 strip pit areas owned by the
 e Commission.

Captive geese guard their nest
 at the Cheyenne Bottoms Water-
 fowl Area. This area is a
 natural basin of some 19,000
 acres and has been a concen-
 tration point for waterfowl for
 untold years.



A sound management plan for
 wildlife at Lovewell Reservoir
 provides both food and cover
 as shown by the above photo.
 The reservoir lands under the
 control of the Kansas Forestry,
 Fish and Game Commission,
 are public hunting areas.

st is permitted at the
 7 concrete blinds simi-
 e concrete blinds are
 which are open to



r all water sports is the
 ate Lake. One of the
 the floating boat dock
 he lake, like numerous
 as, was constructed with

the Pittman-Robertson, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act in 1937.

The P-R Act provided for financial aid to these agencies through the establishment of a ten percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition. This tax is levied at the point of manufacture, paid to the Federal government and then apportioned back to the states for wildlife research, management, maintenance and the acquisition and development of public hunting lands.

Important stipulations of this act provided that, (1) monies granted to a state would be forthcoming only after an approved activity had been completed and paid for by the state, (2) that no more than eight percent of the tax monies received would be retained by the Department of the Interior for the administration of the act, and (3) that no funds would be approved for distribution to a state where any portion of hunting license monies received by that state were diverted to other than wildlife conservation uses. Provision (1), guarantees that a state shall be in a good fiscal and administrative condition before receiving P-R funds, and more importantly, that these funds be used for conservation programs of a substantial nature. Provision (2), guarantees that at least 92 percent of all funds collected, be returned to the states for wildlife projects. Provision (3), has prevented many a state legislature from raiding its conservation coffers, thereby insuring the sportsman a "fair shake" in the use of his license dollars.

In 1950, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, was passed by the Congress of the United States. This legislation, commonly called the Dingell-Johnson or "D-J" Act, is essentially the same as the P-R Act in most respects. Monies are provided by an excise tax on sport fishing gear.

In essence, both of these acts, unlike many federal aid programs, provide for the collection of monies from the individual who receives the benefits. What could be more equitable?

Obviously, a lot of years have passed since the inception of these programs. Just how much money has Kansas received under these acts and what has been accomplished?

P-R Act

In the 28 annual apportionments under the P-R Act, Kansas has been provided with \$5,250,000 for wildlife restoration projects. This constitutes no more than 75 percent of the total value of these activities since the state must pay at least 25 percent of a project's total cost. The cumulative value of all federal aid wildlife projects, completed or in progress, is in excess of \$7,000,000.

In the 15 annual apportionments under the D-J Act, Kansas has been provided with \$1,150,000 for fisheries projects. The total value of these projects has been in excess of \$1,500,000.

In all, something over eight and one-half million dollars have been spent on federal aid projects in Kansas. Just where and how have these funds been used?

Under P-R, Kansas has purchased 31,461 acres for development and management for upland game, waterfowl and public hunting benefits. These projects include the Cheyenne Bottoms, Neosho, Jamestown and Marais des Cygnes waterfowl management areas. In all, over 26,000 acres of water have been established on these four areas and approximately 19,000 acres of lands and waters are open to upland game and waterfowl hunting.

In 1962, the department embarked on a game research program. Under this project, much information has been gathered on the distribution and relative abundance of all major game species; bag check, game harvest and biological data have been obtained through check stations and mail surveys; a number of surveys have been established to determine annual production and abundance of game species, resulting in longer and more liberal hunting seasons on most upland game species and the first Kansas deer hunting season of modern times in 1965; a six-year study is in progress to determine the relative benefits to be derived from the release of pen-raised bobwhite quail; a long-term prairie chicken study is under way in the Flint Hills of Chase county, and programs for establishing populations of pronghorn antelope and wild turkeys

are making good progress. In regard to the turkeys and antelope, 157 antelope and 130 wild turkeys have been released on selected sites during the winters of 1964-1965 and 1965-1966. Our goals are to reestablish these animals on historic range in Kansas, with the further goal of obtaining huntable populations in future years. At present, the introduced stock is doing well and prospects for the future seem bright.

A statewide public hunting area development project was established in 1964. Under this project, over 100,000 acres of state-owned or licensed lands on federal reservoirs, are being developed for public hunting. An additional 58,000 acres of reservoir lands are expected to be licensed in the near future for development and management under this project.

In the past five years, 7,400 acres have been purchased by the department for public hunting areas. The most significant of these areas are the Strip Pits Wildlife Management Area in Cherokee county and the Kingman Game Management Area in Kingman county.

In 1963, the commission approved a list of twelve proposed land acquisition projects totaling 26,000 acres. Since that time, two of these areas have been purchased in their entirety, a portion of the land has been acquired on a third area and three additional areas are under P-R projects for acquisition in the immediate future.

Department emphasis is on the acquisition and development of public hunting lands. The next ten years should see great strides in this direction.

D-J Act

Under the D-J Act, Kansas has built nine state lakes located in Bourbon, Cowley, Douglas, Hodgeman, Montgomery, Osage, Shawnee, Sheridan and Washington counties. These lakes represent a total land purchase of 3,928 acres and the creation of 1,032 surface acres of water. Two additional state lakes, located in Lane and Kiowa counties, will be under construction in the near future.

A recent and significant D-J development project, was the completion of contract work on 5,300 acres of

strip-mined lands in Cherokee and Crawford counties. Under this contract, roads, parking lots, boat ramps, sanitary facilities and walkways (construction of walking ledges along the banks of pits where shoreline access was difficult) were constructed so that fishermen might be afforded convenient access to the excellent fishing waters on mined lands.

In the area of research, the commission has contracted with Kansas State University, the State Biological Survey of Kansas (Kansas University), and Emporia State Teachers College, for the accomplishment of investigations of value in fisheries management. This research has been concerned with such factors as nutrition, behavior and harvest of channel catfish and a study of the progressive changes in Lyon County State Lake resulting from the drainage and rehabilitation of that lake. Information gained in the Lyon county lake study will be useful in the rehabilitation of similar lakes in Kansas.

In the coming year, Kansas State College of Pittsburg will be added to this project for a study of changes in aquatic conditions and life that result from efforts made to improve and change strip-mine waters that are not now productive of fish life.

A second research project is being carried out by Fisheries division personnel. Under this project, efforts are being made to inventory the fisheries resources of Kansas; to determine our major fisheries problems relative to the control of nuisance aquatic plants, the need for fish population controls, the incidence and extent of pollution of lakes and streams, the investigation of river basin projects (watershed projects and federal reservoirs), the evaluation of fish-stocking procedures, and the development of methods for improving northern pike production in reservoirs.

An outgrowth of the inventory of our fishery resources will be the formulation of guidelines to be used for the acquisition of lands for public access to our better streams. This program will get under way in the near future. Plans are to acquire, by easements, lands along the banks of selected streams where lack of public access, the quality of the fishery and

the potential for public use will justify the cost of acquisition.

Eight and one-half million dollars spent on fish and wildlife projects and programs is no small matter. Past accomplishments speak for themselves, today's efforts are better and we expect to improve on our past and present efforts with an even better program for the future. Although personnel in federal and state agencies might wish to assume the lion's share of credit for these accomplishments, it must be remembered that the sportsman who buys sporting arms and ammunition and sport fishing gear, is the person who makes these programs possible through the payment of excise taxes.

Here and There

Fishery crews of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission completed one of their most successful walleye operations in recent years with the taking of approximately 30 million walleye eggs. Most of the eggs were taken from adult walleyes at Webster reservoir.

The young walleye fry have now been distributed to several reservoirs and state lakes throughout Kansas.

A clean bill of health was given to the deer population of Kansas by Dr. Kenneth Weide, laboratory director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Kansas State University at Manhattan.

In making the report, Dr. Weide revealed that the blood samples of deer taken during the 1965 firearms season showed an almost negligible disease factor in Kansas deer.

The samples were tested for three diseases—leptospirosis, brucellosis and anaplasmosis, diseases found in deer, cattle and other ruminants.

The museum rooms at the old headquarters building of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission are receiving a face lifting. George Moore, director of the commission, has announced that current plans call

for a complete rehabilitation of the exhibits and the adding of more specimens of Kansas wildlife.

Myron Schwinn, a teacher in the Manhattan schools and a taxidermist, has been employed for the summer months to begin the project which is expected to require two or three summers to complete.

Emphasis for the project will be on providing visitors with as many examples as possible of the various species of Kansas wildlife.

The Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission has announced the completion of a sizable project in the strip pit area of southeast Kansas. All of the new improvements are on strip pit lands owned by the Fish and Game Commission.

Improvements include all-weather gravel surfaced access roads, walkways or footpaths along the larger pits, gravel surfaced boat ramps, gravel surfaced parking lots, "turn arounds" and sanitary facilities.

Also included in the project was construction of dams and fills in the pits themselves which will raise the water levels increasing the surface area. This should stimulate fish growth as well as prove to be attractive to larger numbers of waterfowl during migrations.

The new facilities will make it possible for many more persons to enjoy the fishing and fall hunting opportunities provided by these lands.

A new brochure published by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission entitled "Guide to Strip Pit Fishing and Hunting" is now available from the commission. The guide includes maps of the pits and should aid the hunters and fishermen who take advantage of the strip pit area.

GUIDE CHECK

Pop a lot of lures when casting? Cause probably is a rough line guide that must be replaced. To find it, pull a piece of nylon stocking through the guides. If you get a pull, that's the bad one!

Book Review—Black Duck Spring Northern Pike Record

Bruce S. Wright, author of *Black Duck Spring*, presented a most interesting novel of the black duck which is found along the northeastern sea-coast of North America and an excellent description of the ecology of the black duck country and the relationship between the black duck and its environment. Even though this novel is fiction, Mr. Wright traces the life history of the duck and its habits and the factors that are consistently whittling away of the range.

In reading this book, Mr. Wright shows how the male black duck is controlled by its environment and during the breeding season by his mate. He interweaves, into this very interesting novel, conditions that have resulted in the extermination of the great auk, the labrador duck, the alaskan curlew, the brown mink and others. He also points out in a very vivid manner how man through the years has been

directly responsible to the reduction, not only in the number of animals found throughout the black duck range, but also how man is continually whittling away at the habitat of many wild animals to such a degree that we should analyze our souls to determine which is more important, the environment around us or immediate personal gain.

Black Duck Spring is not only an interesting novel but it is well documented by a well qualified biologist who leaves the reader with a serious question that only he can answer.

I recommend that this book become a part of the library of all people who are interested in natural history and especially those who are interested in our national waterfowl picture and the preservation of our flora and fauna.

GEORGE C. MOORE.

New Information-Education Director

Thayne Smith, Topeka, well-known outdoorsman and outdoor writer, has been named chief of the information-education division of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, George C. Moore, director, has announced.

Smith was born and reared in western Kansas near Dighton and holds a college degree in journalism. Since graduation from college he has been employed by various newspapers and was also formerly associated with the Kansas Highway Commission for a number of years where he was public relations director.

More popularly known by Kansans as the author of *Kansas Sportsman*, a newspaper column, Smith has been a free-lance writer, photographer and lecturer for the past few years. He is also presently editor of the popular "*Kansas Outdoors*" magazine.

Smith's appointment to the post fills the vacancy created by the resignation of John Polson.

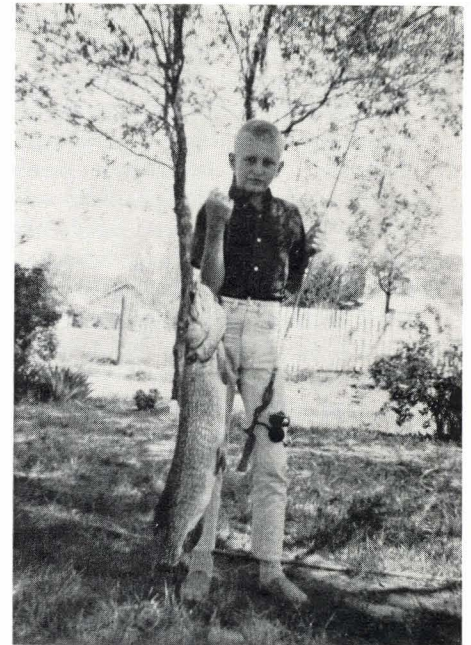
License Sales Show Small Increase

A small increase in revenue from the sale of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses and permits was reflected during 1965 according to a recent tabulation by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission.

The tabulation revealed that Kansas sportsmen spent a total of \$1,765,978 for licenses and permits during 1965.

The only classifications to show a decline were trapping and combination hunting and fishing licenses. The number of trappers decreased by 102 and approximately 700 fewer persons purchased the combination licenses.

The sales of licenses and permits is the sole source of revenue for the Fish and Game Commission with the exception of Kansas' share of the federal excise taxes on arms, ammunition and fishing tackle. No general tax monies are used in the wildlife conservation program.



The whopper was taken on spinning tackle with a ten-pound test line and measured 39½ inches in length with a girth of 15½ inches. A live minnow was used for bait. The fish was weighed on scales legal for trade at Randolph, Kansas.

In describing his experience, young Bergsten stated that he was fishing from the shore at Tuttle Creek when the fish struck. It took him about 20 minutes to bring the northern close enough to shore to slip a dip net under his prize. Kim and his father are having the pike mounted.

Incidentally, Kim is the youngest person to hold a state fish record in Kansas. The previous record holder for northern pike was K. Mark Scott of Manhattan who took a 13-pound, 8-ounce northern in the tailwaters below Tuttle Creek Dam on February 6, 1966. His record stood for exactly three months.

What About 'Bob'?

By **ED HARTOWICZ**
Quail Study Leader

The pointer slid to a stop, searched the drifting air currents with a quivering nose, then crept forward one . . . two steps and froze. The man nodded and the boy walked toward the dog, talking soothingly, slipping the safety off the double-barrel as he approached. Suddenly the ground in front of the dog exploded into a dozen brown rockets! This is a sight and sound familiar to over one hundred thousand Kansans each fall.

Another sight and sound familiar to even more Kansans is that of a dapper little brown bird proclaiming the arrival of spring with a resounding "ah, bobwhite." But what about "Mr. Bob" during the rest of the year, between these well known instances.

In 1962, under the Pittman-Robertson program, a research project was initiated to find out about "Bob." Where were bobwhites found? How many are there? How many are harvested each fall? What is good quail management in Kansas? These were only a few of the questions asked, but they were the most important and became the objectives of the first year's study. It was apparent, however, that all of these questions couldn't be answered in one year. Once the distribution of bobwhites was determined it wouldn't be necessary to repeat the study every year. Determining annual abundance and the size of the fall harvest, on the other hand, would

need be repeated year after year. Other than regulations, the only management procedure being used was the rearing and releasing of pen-raised quail. Research findings in other states, several bordering Kansas, indicated the practice to be of questionable value. Thus, the evaluation of the existing program was the most likely place to start on management research, and a banding and survival study was set up to run for six or more years.

With the objectives defined, the next step was to select techniques that would provide the answers. The easiest way to find out where bobwhites were found was to ask farmers throughout the state. This was already being done by game protectors in the annual August land-owners survey. Additional information was ob-

tained from the game protectors, the new population surveys, from questionnaires sent to hunters, and existing information in the Game Division files that would shed light on the question. When the information from all sources was compiled, a map was prepared showing the areas of high, medium, light and very light density. Bobwhites were found in every county in the state, although many of the western counties contained only scattered local populations. It is natural to look for the area you know best when you are shown such a map and sometimes to disagree with the results. You may consider the portion of the county or counties where you live or hunt to be higher or lower than shown, and you're probably right. The data used to construct the map was averaged so that local highs and lows were not



shown. Local populations also change annually, often with a single storm.

To provide maximum harvest and recreation without endangering the population required knowing how many birds were available. It's impossible actually to count the birds but it is possible to sample the population and determine changes in abundance from year to year. The techniques used were three new surveys, each designed to provide a portion of the needed information with some overlap so that all the "eggs" weren't in one basket.

Rural mail carriers, approximately 700, drive nearly 200,000 miles during each four-day game count in January, April, and July. These counts are made as the carrier runs his regular route. They record the number of quail seen and distinguish between young and adults during the July count. Since the annual harvest is usually about 80 to 85 percent young-of-the-year, summer production determines how much of a harvestable surplus there will be.

The two remaining surveys, conducted by commission personnel, are run in July and August, the best time for determining production of young. Game protectors run an early morning whistling cock count to determine the progress of the nesting cycle. Is the hatching peak early or late? Is there much renesting, etc.? The answers to these questions provide much information which adds considerably to the value of the mail carriers reports and to the data from the remaining survey,

the random brood count. For six weeks, beginning in mid-July and running through August, field personnel record all quail seen while carrying out their usual duties. They record birds observed by age class, by pairs, broods, and singles. The resulting data when combined with information from the whistle count and the mail carriers reports and current weather data, provides a pretty good indication of what will be available that third Saturday in November.

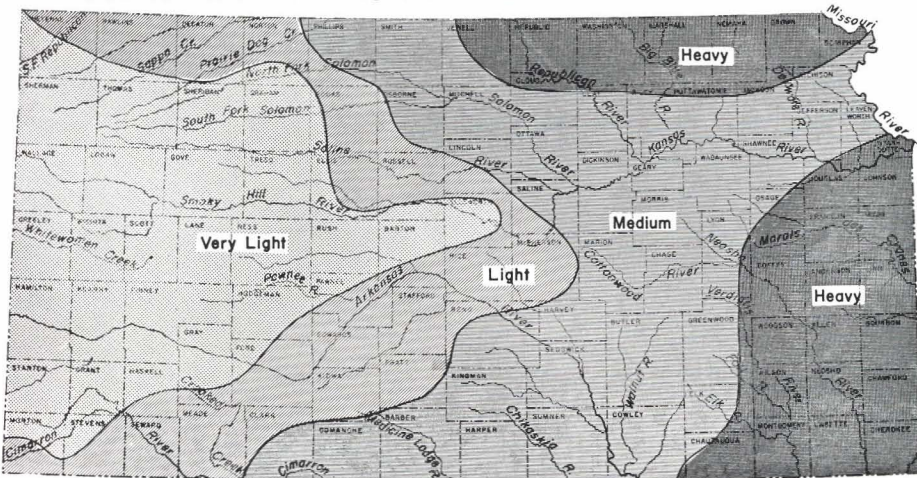
A number of things have a bearing on the size of the fall harvest; weather and hunter interest are major factors. More hunters usually means a larger harvest and more birds usually means more hunters, over 142,000 in 1964. The actual determination of how many birds were bagged and how active the quail hunters were is handled under another P-R project through the Pratt office. Questionnaires are mailed to a five percent sample of license buyers in each county. The number of quail hunters, birds bagged, and hunting trips per season are determined from the hunters' answers and then the final totals are based on hunting license sales for that year. For 1963, 1964, and probably 1965, the harvest was well over two million quail annually.

The remaining part of the quail project, the evaluation of restocking, is divided into two parts; an extensive banding program and an intensive survival and behavior study. The extensive banding program is handled partially through the Pratt headquarters office. All birds now released, in both

spring and fall from the state game farms, wear a serially numbered aluminum leg band. Band numbers, location and date of release, food, cover and water conditions, and the condition of the birds at release are recorded and this information forwarded to Pratt. When one of these banded birds is bagged and the band sent to Pratt, additional information on the date and location of kill is recorded. Only in this way can the statewide releases be properly evaluated. Another extensive banding program under the quail project proper is handled in a somewhat similar manner but with some modifications. Banded birds, 144 in a release, are liberated on public hunting areas in Cherokee, Greenwood and Kingman counties in April and October. Another public hunting area of similar size (the average is about 600 acres) and nearby does not receive any birds but both areas are checked opening weekend by one of the assigned biologists. By contacting hunters, the number of birds bagged, hunting pressure and success are determined for each area. After one of a pair of areas has been stocked for three years, the roles of the areas are switched and hunting data gathered for another three years. Bands recovered by hunters after opening weekend are sent to Pratt and handled as previously described. At the end of six years, the effects of annual restocking should be apparent in the hunting success through the years. Theoretically, if stocking is beneficial, hunting success should increase when stocking is begun and decline when it is terminated.

The intensive study is being conducted on paired areas in Linn county. One of the areas is being stocked spring and fall and both areas are checked throughout the season. In addition, the population of both areas is determined by actual count in the spring prior to that release, during late summer prior to the fall release and before and after the hunting season. Native bobwhites are trapped and banded to obtain band returns for comparison. The intensive study is in its third year and the extensive banding program in its fifth, so a few more years remain before the final evaluation.

KANSAS QUAIL DENSITIES



Now, what do we know about "Bob"? We know where he is and, in relative numbers, how many. We also know how many are harvested annually and soon, we hope, how efficient annual restocking is as a management tool.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: The determination of quail harvest and the statewide banding of released bobwhites is handled by Robert Wood, biologist stationed in Pratt. Mr. Wood's contribution of data and help with many phases of the quail project are gratefully acknowledged.)

MINNOW CATCHER

To make a good minnow catcher, remove the cloth from an old umbrella and cover with mosquito netting. Then just drag the umbrella through the water.

EASIER ROWING

To save wear and tear on hands, place a small, split section of a bicycle tire on the grip of boat oar. This gives you a much more firm and comfortable hold. The tread from a bicycle handle also gives a good grip.

CLEAN SKILLET

To remove cooked-on grime from a skillet, turn it upside down over a died-down campfire or live coals. The dirt will pop off leaving the pan as smooth as new.

INSTANT PRIVACY

For privacy when sleeping in your station wagon, cover the windows with a white based window cleaner. Wipe off in the morning, and you get privacy all night, clean windows all day.

GOING DOWN?

The tab from a new tab-top beer can may be used to put a go-deep lip on a fishing lure, and may be adjusted to any angle.

Freezer Storage of Fish

Many fishermen who enjoy eating their catch appreciate most the times when they can dress their fish, pop them in a skillet and lean back to relish the taste which comes from truly fresh fish. However, there are occasions when an angler has especially good success and he would like to save some of his catch to be enjoyed later. With today's methods of freezing and availability of freezing units in the home, storage for use at a later date is quite easy.

There are a few techniques which, if followed, can produce better tasting fish after long periods of storing in a freezer. Naturally, all fish should be cleaned as soon as possible after being caught. This applies whether you are going to freeze them or not. It is also important to chill the fish in cold brine after cleaning. The salt water helps remove any blood which might remain in the flesh.

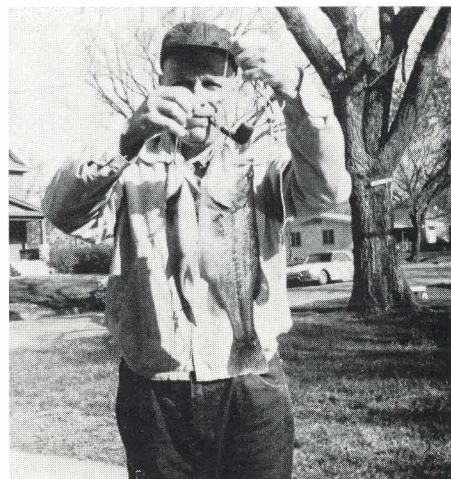
If you are going to keep them only a few days or a week or two, wrapping in regular freezer paper is OK. But, if you plan to keep your catch for over a month, other methods are preferred. One of the best so far discovered is to place the fish in a water-tight container, fill it with water enough to cover the fish and place it in the sharp freeze compartment immediately. This keeps the fish from drying out and losing flavor. Any meat is subject to "freezer burn" if stored over long periods of time but the water method prevents this. Who ever heard of anything drying out while frozen in a cake of ice?

The container is not usually a problem. Many anglers use plastic bags tying the opening securely to prevent water loss. Another method involves the use of discarded half-gallon milk cartons. First open the top and wash thoroughly. Place the dressed fish in the carton, pour full of water and close the top in the usual manner. Fish frozen this way will stay fresh indefinitely and they'll taste better when it comes time for that big fish fry.

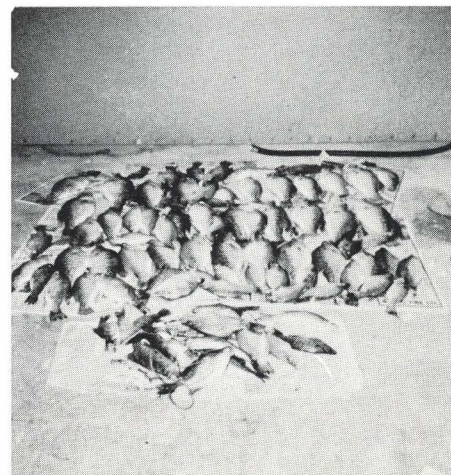
Beware the Safety Button

Many a hunter has shot himself, or somebody else, simply because he relied too heavily on the safety catch on his shotgun.

Safeties on shotguns are apt to give a sportsman a false sense of security. All the safety snap does is block the triggers so they can't be pulled. It doesn't block the hammers so they can't fall and hit the firing pins. And hammers are what fire the guns!



Jim Bibb, Director of Budgets for the State of Kansas, is an ardent fisherman. To prove the point, he displays a couple of bass taken from Tuttle Creek Reservoir this spring. The largest weighed just under four pounds. Bibb was accompanied on this trip by Roy Freeland, secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, and Mrs. Freeland. Crappie (shown below) were also a part of their catch with the largest weighing up to one and one-half pounds.





Geary County State Lake

27th of a Series on the State Lakes of Kansas

By **GEORGE VALYER**

Sunrise on a late May day is a beautiful time anywhere in Kansas. It's especially beautiful in the Flint Hills. As the greys of early dawn are replaced by the emerald hues on the hilltops and the purple shades begin to blend within the valleys, it is almost impossible not to be absorbed by the wonder of the countryside.

The morning dew changes to iridescent gems as the first rays of the sun steal their way softly through the grass. A meadowlark trills his greetings to the morning and a cottontail sits erect, sniffing the fresh breeze, only to scurry under cover as a hawk wings its way overhead.

It was just such a morning when I last visited Geary County State Lake.

The lapping of the waters along the rocky shoreline gave evidence that nature was in tune and the symphony she played was satisfying to the soul. So peaceful was the scene, I almost forgot that I came here to sample the fishing and take pictures of the lake. For awhile, time almost stood still, that is until a young grasshopper plunked himself onto the surface of the water and was promptly smacked by a bluegill. This snapped the spell and I decided that fishing came first and everything else was secondary.

Geary County State Lake is the sort of a lake which can draw all of your attention to the business at hand. There are times when these waters yield enough fish to keep you busy as

can be just taking them off your line. But there are other times when a million dollars couldn't buy a strike. However, I don't believe this is a great deal different than any other lake or reservoir, regardless of the fish population. It is my belief that the uncertainty is a part of the fascination of fishing. Who would want to go if he knew every trip would yield a limit.

It is relatively easy to fish the eastern shore of this lake. If you have a boat, it's easy to get to any part because of the excellent launching facilities. However, if you don't have a boat, fishing the western shore or the west arm of the lake can be a problem. Especially if you don't like to walk. The access road runs from the

upper end of the lake all the way to the dam on the east side only. The west shore has no roadways but many anglers tell us they like it this way. It gives them the opportunity to get back away from the crowds and fish in areas where they can be by themselves. All that is required is a pair of legs that won't complain too much with hiking a half a mile or so.

Geary County State Lake is easy to find. You go south of Junction City or north out of Herington on U. S. 77 and the lake lies to the west of the highway a mile north of the turn-off to Rock Springs 4-H Ranch. You can see the head of the lake from the highway and a good graveled road leads down to the boat ramp and camping area. This past fall, the Geary County Fish and Game Association added to the facilities by constructing a boat dock near the ramp. This dock is well constructed and a prime example of public service work on the part of a sportsman's club. Naturally, the dock is available for the use of all who visit the lake and the club members are to be congratulated for their fine work.

The Geary county association has been active in other projects concerning the lake. Every spring they hold a clean-up day at the lake to assist maintenance crews of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission. They have also provided a hundred tons of gravel on the access road to the boat ramp and camping area and set out over 400 trees and shrubs at various locations around the lake. Another project of these sportsmen was the marking of underwater brushpiles and snags along the west shore of the east arm. These markings serve the dual purpose of warning boats of the obstructions and marking the sites of the crappie beds.

The main lake body lies in a draw which runs from southeast to northwest with the dam located at the north end. A shorter arm of the lake extends to the southwest. The lake covers 96 acres and lies in a 451-acre plot which was purchased by the Fish and Game Commission in 1960. Construction of the dam was begun in late December of '60 and was completed in July of 1961. Sharp bluffs rise from the lakeshore at some spots while gentle slopes characterize other areas.

The watercourse which forms the lake bed is a tributary of Lyon creek which wends its way to a junction with the Smoky Hill river near Junction City. Small wet-weather springs and seeps are to be found at the bases of some of the bluffs but they do not contribute significant amounts of water to the lake. The major water source is from runoff during times of heavy rains. Since the bulk of the land in the drainage is in grass, Geary County State Lake is relatively clear most of the time.

Four months after the lake was completed, sufficient water had been impounded to allow for stocking. At that time fingerling bass, channels, black crappie and bluegill were placed in the lake. These grew well and the lake was officially opened to fishing late in 1963. Also present in the waters are green sunfish and bullheads even though they were not stocked. This is not an unusual occurrence since, in all probability, these species were to be found in small ponds in the watershed above the lake.

Geary County State Lake makes an ideal destination for a family who likes to fish along with camping and picnicking. The fishing, of course, is

the big attraction but attractive camping areas with tables, grills and sanitary facilities are well used by those who enjoy the area. As is the case with all areas operated by the Fish and Game Commission, no extra fees are charged for use of the facilities.

There is no concession at the lake so one should plan to obtain his bait and supplies at either Herington or Junction City, depending on which route he takes. Water is available and has been tested and approved.

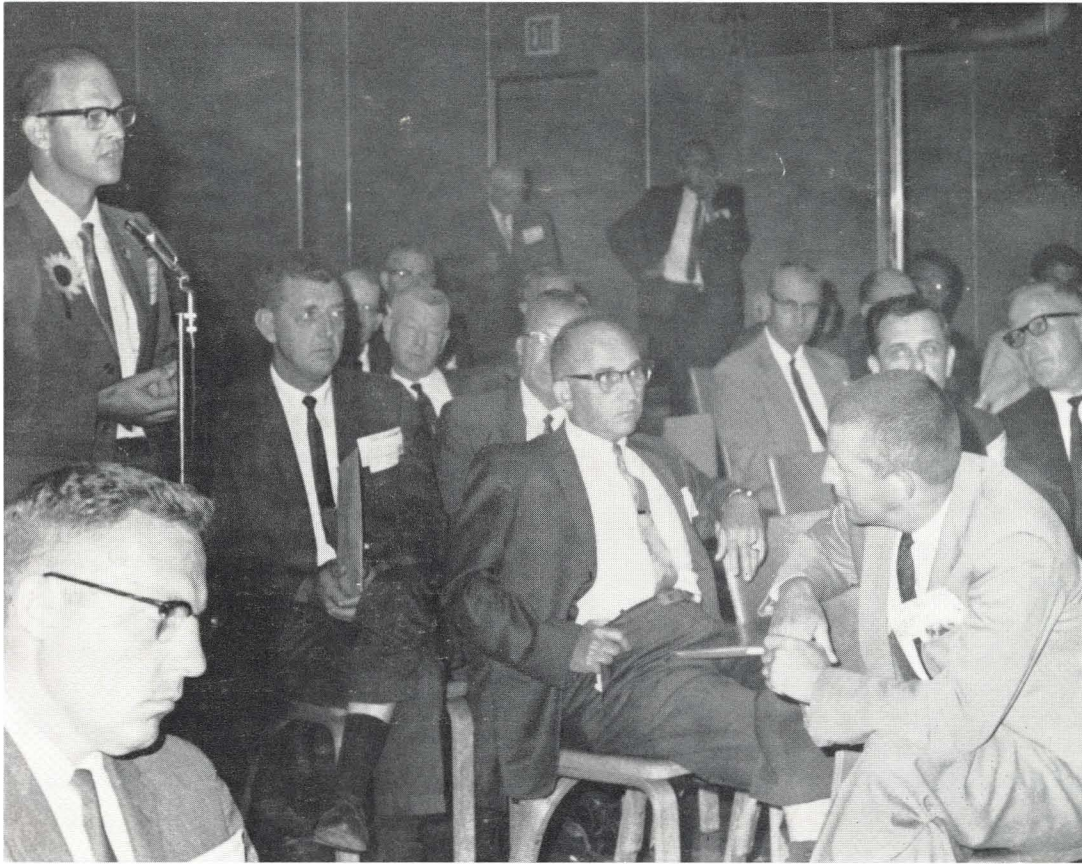
If you are looking for a spot to spend a day, a weekend or longer, you could do well by considering Geary County State Lake. The good fishing coupled with the wide vistas of the Flint Hills has a great deal to offer for the person who is looking for an escape from the fast pace of today's living. The tiredness of the mind and soul can find refreshment at a spot like this.

FISH SCALER

Of course you know that bottle caps nailed to a piece of broom handles make one of the finest fish scalers that money doesn't have to buy.



The Geary County State Lake boasts a fine boat dock, thanks to the efforts of the Geary County Fish and Game Association. This sportsmen's club has sponsored many worthwhile projects.



James T. Shields, director of Minnesota's Division of Game and Fish, joins in the discussion from the floor following a report from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. Delegates pictured were part of a group of representatives from 14 states and two Canadian provinces who attended the 33rd annual meeting of the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners which convened in Wichita from July 12 through 14.

Delegates from 14 states and two Canadian provinces convened in Wichita July 12-14 for the 33rd annual meeting of the Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners.

The delegates to the meeting, made up of professional wildlife administrators, wildlife technicians and commissioners from the member states and provinces, were welcomed by Governor William Avery. Jack Lacy, director of the Kansas Department of

Economic Development gave the keynote address.

Many technical papers on wildlife management and discussion of legislation for fish and wildlife improvement were featured items during the numerous sessions.

Pollution control was one of the top priority legislative issues considered by the delegates. Other top items concerned federal wetlands and waterfowl bills and a resolution aimed

at realignment of the small watershed program.

New officers elected by the delegates to take office Jan. 1, 1967, were Everett B. Speaker, director of the Iowa Conservation Commission, president; William Lodge, director of the Illinois Department of Conservation, vice-president and Earl T. Rose, chief of Fish and Game, Iowa Conservation Commission, secretary-treasurer.

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