

KANSAS FISH AND GAME



VOL. XV

JULY, 1957

No. 1



Foreground—Georgia Rundle, Miss Kansas, from Axtell; Norma Jean Cook, first runner-up, Miss Lawrence, from Winfield.

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One of those who filled his limit on bass early on opening day was Clifford L. Davis, U. S. Army who is stationed at Fort Riley. Originally from Newman, Ga., Davis was enthusiastic about Kansas fishing. Also included in his catch were eight green sunfish.

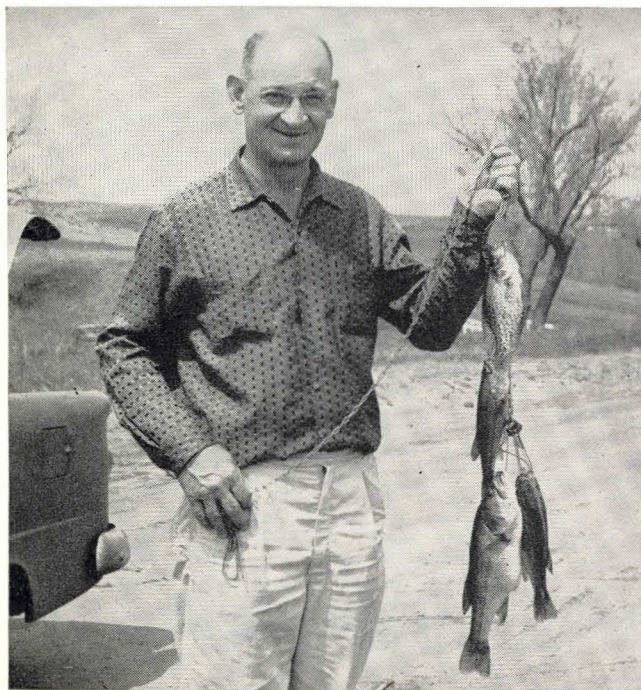
Big Day at McPherson County State Lake

The date was May 1—the day many central Kansas anglers had been waiting for. The day marked the opening for fishing at McPherson County State Lake. The first light of dawn revealed a dismal scene.

Light rain was falling and dark skies overhead gave indication that the day would be unpleasant. Even so, an estimated 80 to 100 fishermen huddled in rain-coats and waited in cars for the gun which would sig-



Edward Garmon of Hutchinson had a big day at the newly opened McPherson County State Lake. Appearing on his stringer were three bass, three bullheads, one channel and 25 green sunfish.



Not quite a limit catch, but a nice string of fish was displayed by **Walter Sorenson** of McPherson who is lucky enough to live near McPherson County State Lake. We'll bet that he will have many a pleasant day fishing this pretty lake.

nal that fishing time had arrived. A few had been at the lake overnight sleeping in tents or cars.

The sound of the shot echoed from the hills and baits hit the water. Spinning tackle, bait casting outfits and flyrods were all in evidence. Fish which had never seen a plug, spinner or baited hook were the object of all this activity. Would they be hungry on such a damp chilly morning? It didn't take long to find out.

Largemouth black bass struck savagely at plugs, minnows and spinning lures. Green sunfish grabbed at worms and flies. Bullheads and channel catfish ran with baited hooks and crappie sucked in small minnows only to find a stinging barb. Yes, fishing was fine.

Late arrivals found many a fisherman with limits already filled or bait supply exhausted. By 9:30 a. m. the sun was forcing its way through the haze. Bass fishing began to drop off but green sunfish, crappie and bullheads continued to provide plenty of action.

McPherson County State Lake is not a large lake as lakes go but its 46 surface acres are well situated in rolling hills. Springs above the lake run clear and cool and beaver inhabit the small creek which feeds the lake. Except for periods of heavy rainfall, the lake is clear and provides ideal habitat for sight-feeding fish such as black bass, crappie, bluegill and sunfish.

Picnic areas have been developed and are equipped with tables, grills and sanitary facilities. An all-weather road provides access to all portions of the lake area and a boat dock is being built by the McPherson County Sportsman's Club.

The lake is reached by turning north from US 56 two and one-half miles west of Canton. Then go seven miles to the north and one mile east. There you are at one of Kansas' better fishing spots.

This lake was built in 1954 and stocked with fish in 1955. Therefore, no lunkers can be caught at the present. Growth rate of the fish stocked has been good. On opening day bass up to 16 inches were taken and crappie were good keeping size. The angling future looks bright at the McPherson County State Lake.

Though color is often used in identifying fish, it's not always a good criterion since it varies widely in different parts of the country or even within the same lakes or streams.

Artificial flies used in fishing are best played on the surface with an up and back rod movement and under the surface with an up and sideward motion.

DOVES in Kansas

Among all the birds classified as game, the mourning dove is unique in that it is the only one that breeds in every one of the United States. Its range during the breeding season also extends across Southern Canada from British Columbia to Ontario, and to the southward to Central Mexico. Thus it migrates across both of our international boundaries and accordingly is protected by the Federal Government under the terms of the migratory bird treaties between the United States and Great Britain and between the United States and Mexico.

Before discussing management of the mourning dove in Kansas, it might be well to first brief ourselves on the habits of this important game bird.

The mating and nesting habits of this pigeon-like bird, beloved by all, are interesting and well known. During the pairing season, the male circles and sails above the object of his affection uttering the mournful love call presumably so pleasing to the female.

In Kansas these birds nest from early May to late August, often to early September. Nests are frail-like structures of small twigs erected on the branches of low trees in dense thickets, on the ground, and in many other places.



Dove nestlings about ready to fly. Two is a normal brood for the mourning dove which nests more than one time during a season. With good luck, three broods can be raised before fall migration.

The two white eggs ordinarily laid require from fourteen to sixteen days incubation. The mated pair remain true and devoted to each other during the entire nesting season, raising as many as three broods during that time.

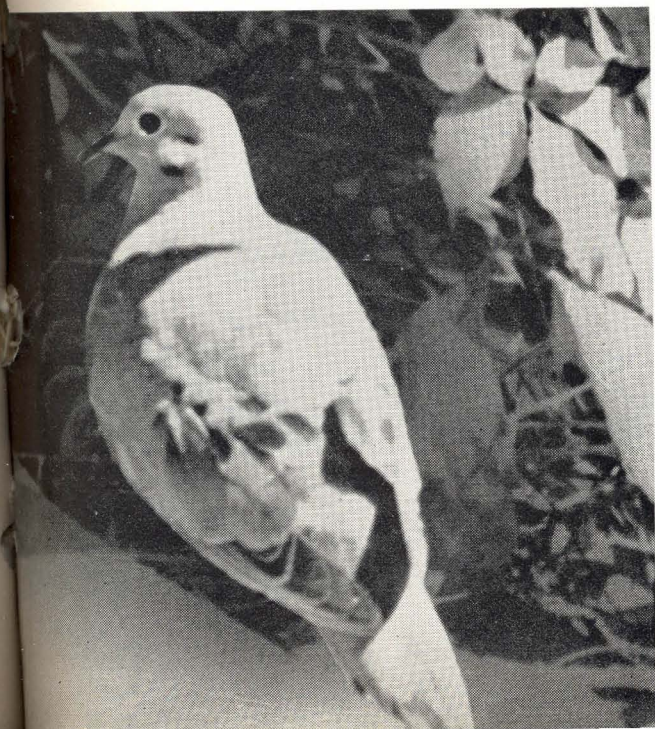
The nestlings require much parental care and attention during the three weeks they remain on their nests. The young birds take their food mixed with light colored fluid called "pigeon milk" from the parents' crop. The young are slow in acquiring their power of flight, but such facilities are strong and fully developed before the fall migration is begun. In preparation for that annual event, the birds assemble and congregate into family groups. Kansas doves usually migrate to and winter in Texas or our southern states and often as far south as Central Mexico.

In recent years, the mourning dove has become an increasingly popular game species. In all probability there are several reasons to explain this trend. These reasons might be listed as follows:

1. The dove is found throughout Kansas in large numbers.
2. The hunting season is relatively long and the bag limit reasonably large.
3. The shorter work-week, better transportation facilities and increased personal income has encouraged more people to go hunting.
4. The recent drought years limited the numbers of other game species that were readily available to the average hunter.
5. Those who hunt doves find them to be very sporting game and enthusiastically encourage others to join the sport.

With this increased interest in doves, the United States Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife (the old U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and most states, are co-operating in a large scale research program on this species.

Adult mourning at nest. Doves nest in every state in the union and are abundant in Kansas.



In Kansas, we are banding several hundred nestling doves each year. Band returns supply information on the distance and pattern of migration.

To date, Kansas is second in the nation for the number of returned bands. Several Kansas banded doves have been harvested as far south as Old Mexico.

Each spring the interested states are helping in breeding population studies. Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission personnel have been assisting in this project for six years.

It is interesting to note that the dove population is holding up well under current hunting pressures. Therefore, the liberal hunting seasons and bag limits have been retained from year to year. Only when there are indications that the annual harvest approaches the estimated surplus, will the bag limits and season length be reduced in any degree.

Studies of birds in the hunter's bag, indicate that the dove, like bobwhite quail, pheasants, and upland game birds, has a very short life expectancy. Seventy percent or more of the annual harvest is made up of the young-of-the-year. Doves, like other wildlife, cannot be stock-piled for future use; therefore, a reasonable annual harvest is part of a sound management program.

Since doves are a migratory bird, regulation of the hunting season comes under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The season each fall is set within the framework of dates allowed by the Service. The season last year in Kansas was from September 1 to October 20. The 1957 season has not been set yet but will be announced as soon as federal regulations are known.

The hunting of doves in Kansas takes many forms but perhaps the most sporting and productive method is pass shooting on a flyway between feeding fields and water holes. Many hunters station themselves near water holes and merely wait for the doves to come flying in for a drink. Others prefer jump shooting in the feeding fields. As with other game birds, the law provides that doves be shot only on the wing. Wing shooting of doves is often disappointing. Not because they are easy to hit, because they aren't. The average quail or duck hunter is often completely baffled by the dipping, swirling flight of these speedsters. Hunters who average 50% kill for shotgun shells fired at doves are few and far between.

The size of shot used by most dove hunters of experience is No. 7½ or 8; however, some still use No. 6 and claim better penetrating power for long range shooting.

Since the breast of the dove provides the bulk of the meat on the bird, field dressing can be accomplished with little trouble. The breast is rubbed free of

feathers, a knife is used at the base of the breast bone next to the vent, then a quick flip of the fingers and the breast snaps right off. The breasts of young doves can be fried, broiled, roasted or even barbecued.

If you are looking for good sport, fast shooting and good eating, don't overlook the dove.

CHANGE IN SQUIRREL SEASON

The Forestry, Fish and Game Commission has revised the regulation governing the season for the taking of squirrels. The Commission action at the recommendation of department biologists and technicians has set a later opening and closing date with a season now extending from September 1 to December 31, both dates inclusive. Prior to this year, the opening date has been on July 1 and extended through November 30.

Squirrels in Kansas normally have two litters per year, and a later opening date insures the survival of the second litter or prevents the hunter from taking adult females that are either carrying or nursing young. By September 1, the second litter is usually weaned and are able to care for themselves. Mating activity usually does not resume until late in December.

Remember the squirrel season does not open until September 1.



A 45-pound flathead catfish is no record fish but certainly rates "whopper" classification. This tackle-buster was caught on a rod and reel by O. J. Williams of Horton while fishing Mission lake. May 16 was the date of the battle and the bait used was a large chub. Williams took a 47-pounder from the same lake last year.



BUFFALO Management in Kansas

by **OLIVER GASSWINT**

For many years, the Kansas Forestry Fish and Game Commission has maintained several herds of buffalo. Currently there are herds at the Kingman County State Park, Maxwell Game Refuge near Canton in McPherson County, Crawford County State Park No. 1 near Pittsburg and at the Finney County Game Refuge just south of the Arkansas River near Garden City.

By 1956 the largest herd, over 200 animals, was at the Finney County Game Refuge.

The Kansas Fish and Game Commission has one of the largest concentrations of these animals to be found anywhere in the world.

The buffalo or American Bison, is closely akin to domestic cattle. In fact it is possible to successfully crossbreed these species. The writer knows of two occasions where Kansas cattlemen have successfully crossed the bison and brahma cattle.

Normally the cow is mature at three years and can be expected to calve seven out of ten years. Calves are

usually born in April or May, at which time the fur is a cinnamon brown. At about six weeks of age, the coat loses the cinnamon cast and becomes dark brown.

Each November the Garden City herd is rounded up for vaccination and branding. This entails a week of hard exciting work for Commission employees.

As a standard management practice, one that is used by the Federal government on its refuges, the Fish and Game Commission sells a few animals each fall and winter for butcher purposes. Sales have never been more than 50 percent of the annual increase, therefore, our herds have steadily increased in size, this being especially true at the Finney County Refuge.

This year, the Commission embarked on a project of herd reduction at Finney County. This reduction was necessitated by severe deterioration of the 3,500-acre range due to the prolonged drought. Re-seeding of the sandhills range to desirable forage grasses has not been successful for want of normal rainfall. With a return to more normal moisture conditions and a reduction in the number of animals on the range, successful seeding of the area is anticipated.

On May 7, 1957, a round-up was held at the Finney County Refuge. At that time, all but one hundred of the animals in this herd were sold. The majority of these were purchased for butchering. Some were sold to ranchers for private herds and several were given to Kansas cities for zoo or display purposes.

A second round-up occurred on June 20. At this time the majority of the animals disposed of were given to still more Kansas cities for zoos and parks.

By offering these animals, at no charge, to municipal zoos and parks, Commission Director Dave Leahy and the Commission members feel that more people will have an opportunity to see and enjoy this living sample of American history.

When re-seeding of the Finney County Game Refuge is completed, the remaining stock, which are mature cows for the most part, can easily increase the herd to its former numbers in a few short years.

Buy Your Licenses Early

Licenses and quail stamps that you will need with the new fiscal year, beginning July 1, are now available at the office of your county clerk and at many sporting goods, live bait, and hardware dealers. The licenses you buy now will be good until June 30, 1958. You are urged to buy your licenses early and we suggest that you buy whatever licenses you intend to utilize during the forthcoming year on one trip to the issuing agent.

Types of licenses available, which were renewable on July 1, are the separate hunting and fishing, combination hunting and fishing, trapping, and the quail stamp. There has been no change in license fees over last year. The cost of the separate hunting and fishing license is \$2, the combination hunting and fishing license \$4, trapping license \$1.50, and the quail stamp 50¢.

Bullfrog Season Opens

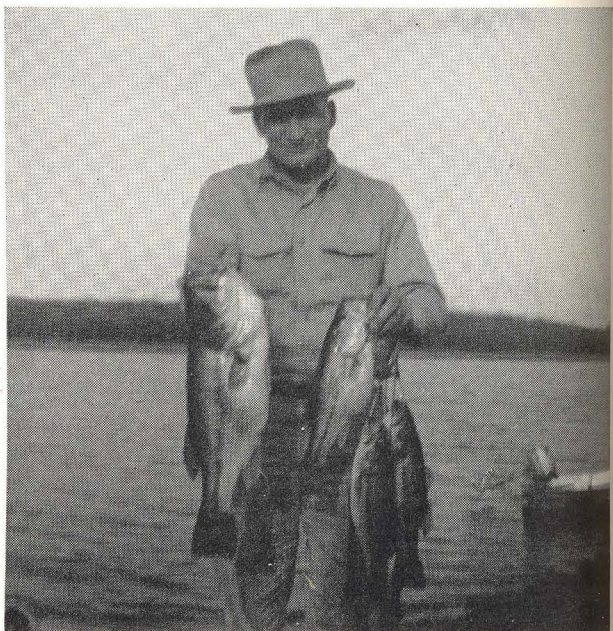
July 1 marks the opening of the bullfrog season with frogs becoming legal prey on that date. The legal season for the taking of bullfrogs extends from July 1 to September 30, both dates inclusive. The legal method of taking bullfrogs is restricted to the use of hand dip-nets, hook and line, and by hand. Any and all other methods of catching bullfrogs are unlawful. Eight are permitted as a daily creel limit and any person taking or attempting to take bullfrogs must have the proper fishing license in possession.

Here is a good recipe for cooking frog legs as found in an issue of the *Fisherman Magazine*:

"Frog legs can be disjointed or fried intact with the back. After washing, season to taste with salt, pepper and lemon juice. Then dip in egg batter and roll vigorously in bread and cracker crumbs. Fry for two or three minutes in deep, hot fat about 390 degrees Fahrenheit. If you want additional seasoning or flavor, tartar sauce gets the nod."



These nine beautiful channels were all caught one fine day in May by Lewis Jones of Yates Center. The total weight was 55 pounds with the largest, being held by Jones, weighing 16 pounds. It's no secret that these fish came from Woodson County State Lake.



Seven nice Largemouth bass are on the stringer pictured here, though you can't see them all. The large one on the left weighed in at six and one-half pounds. Lunker bass are not too uncommon at Woodson County State Lake. Max Granke, Wichita, is the proud angler.



THE OPOSSUM
an antique of the animal world

Kansas wildlife

by MARVIN D. SCHWILLING

The opossum is truly an antique among the mammals of North America. By zoological classification they are placed in a very ancient group, the marsupials. This group has evolved very little through the ages and today is very much like the mammals that lived during the age of the dinosaurs. The brain, that all important organ, has developed very little down through the ages. It is surprisingly small and hardly more advanced than the brain of a reptile. The 'possum, as it is commonly called, is similar in build to an overgrown rat, having the same naked, scaly tail, but with a longer, more pointed snout and a naked muzzle and ears.

The 'possum, though ancient and dumb, is not only holding its own but is increasing its range and numbers each year. They are extremely adaptable to the conditions of their environment. Although the hind feet, with the grasping toes and the prehensile tail, are arboreal (tree) adaptations, Mr. 'Possum is perfectly at home on the ground and may wander long distances in search of food without taking to the trees. We spoke of a prehensile tail. By this we mean the tail can be used to grasp limbs, etc. like that of a monkey, although it probably is not as often used as a climbing and traveling aid by the opossum as it is by the monkey.

When cornered by an enemy, the 'possum appears to die or feign death. This has become legendarily known as "playing 'possum." Some think that this is

brought on by nervous shock and cannot be controlled by the animal; others think they simply faint as the pulse and heart beat slows down. Still, the recovery from this seemingly lifeless state is rapid enough to hint that the 'possum knows what is going on and is ready to take advantage of any chance for freedom.

Mr. 'Possum is considered omnivorous—that is he will eat almost anything that is edible, vegetable or animal, the farmer's chickens, eggs, carrion, or wild and cultivated fruits of all sorts. In captivity they have even been known to eat their own young. During the summer of 1952, one old female and her young played havoc with the sweetcorn in our garden and later in the season spoiled most of our tomatoes. It seemed that they had to have just one bite out of each tomato as they ripened.

The opossum is a solitary animal. Only rarely are two seen together except, of course, the mother with her young. They may also be considered nomadic. By this we mean they travel about a lot, never staying in one den or nest very long.

Mrs. 'Possum raises quite a family. The gestation period is very short—thirteen days or less. The young are born very prematurely and it may take as many as 270 to weigh a single ounce. These tiny grublike creatures, when born, make their way into the mother's fur-lined, marsupial pouch and attach themselves to one of the 13 nipples. All over 13 must perish although as many as twenty may be born. In the pouch they

grow and develop until large enough to emerge from their fur lined home to ride about on the mother's back. The young females breed when one year old, and the average life span is about eight years.

Mr. 'Possum is considered a fur-bearing animal in Kansas, and ranks among the top six fur bearers in the nation. During the trapping season of 1927-'28, some 300,000 pelts were taken and sold in Kansas alone. In recent years the market value of their fur has dropped off sharply causing a much smaller take by the trappers. The fur is very coarse, making the animal look untidy, but when dyed black is commonly used in coats and jackets.

'Possum huntin' is top sport in the South. There he is often hunted at night by hunters afoot with battery-powered lights and dogs. There, too, 'possums are considered excellent eating. Undoubtedly, all have heard of 'possum and sweet taters, so relished by the colored people of the Southland.

'Possums are very resistant to accidental death due to broken bones, fractures, etc. They have the ability to survive injuries much greater than any other North American mammal. Skeletons in museums often show skull and skeletal fractures that would kill most of the other North American mammals, but the opossum somehow is able to survive and recovers completely. This, too, is a trait of the prehistoric animals.

Mr. 'Possum's ability to survive through the decades can be attributed largely to three main factors: First, they are very prolific, having a large number of young; second, they have an omnivorous diet, so food is seldom a problem; third, they are resistant to accidental death and have the ability to recover from broken bones and fractures.

Although the opossums have a great variety of relatives, varying from the size of a mouse to the kangaroo, they are all to be found in South America or Australia. Only Mr. 'Possum of this ancient group ranges far into North America and throughout the state of Kansas.

On Our Cover

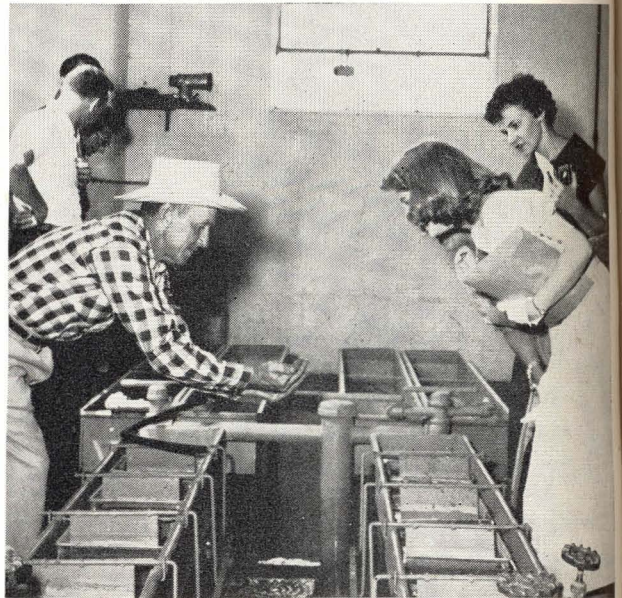
Pretty girls quite often visit the museum and aquarium at Forestry, Fish and Game headquarters but it isn't every day that Miss Kansas can be photographed here. In the foreground is Miss Georgia Rundle of Axtell, the winner of this year's Miss Kansas contest which was held in Pratt.

Contestants for the title visited the museum and fish hatchery on the afternoon of June 7 and each was presented with an envelope of booklets and tourist information.

The young lady in the polka-dot dress is Miss Norma Jean Cook of Winfield who entered the contest as Miss

Lawrence. She was runner-up in the estimate of the judges.

For more pictures of the candidates' visit, see below. The fellow in the checkered shirt who guided the expedition is Elton VanGieson of the fish hatchery staff. Miss Newton, Sherry Tourtillott, attentively views a mounted whitetail deer and other contestants are attracted by the hatching of channel catfish. Photos are by Phil Freund.



Fish must have oxygen to live. When a body of water doesn't produce enough oxygen, fish suffocate.

Ancient Egyptians and Chinese prominently displayed fish in their art works and developed specialized ponds for culturing their favorite table delicacies.

Fish Conservation Fundamentals

THE SPORTSMAN'S ROLE

(Tenth and Final in a Series)

In the early days, sportsmen were responsible for the beginnings of modern fish conservation. Their early squabbling led to the hiring of biologists to serve as trouble-shooters. This hiring, in some states, led to the change, from indiscriminate stocking and arbitrarily-made regulations, to a more effective fish conservation program.

Today, as in the early days, our progress will be determined mainly by the actions of sportsmen. We can have good fishing only if the anglers, themselves, insist on an up-to-date program; and, only if they, collectively, take a hand in the many aspects of fish conservation which cannot be handled by the fishery authorities alone.

Organization

Individuals carry little weight in an age when group action determines what shall be done. Individual sportsmen can be of only limited help to a fish conservation program; organized sportsmen, working together, can carry enough weight to decidedly influence our fishing future.

We have organized sportsmen's groups in our least progressive states, as well as in those which lead the fish conservation parade. So, the mere fact that a sportsmen's organization exists in a state is of little importance. The strength of that organization, and the ability, progressiveness, and caliber of its leaders are the important items.

Sportsmen's Activities

Here are a dozen specific suggestions for sportsmen's groups:

1. The organized sportsmen should insist that the state have a modern fish (and game) program, handled by well-paid, competent personnel, free from politics.
2. Sportsmen should insist that the regulations be made by the fish and game (or conservation) department, and that they be based on factual information. If made by the legislature, sportsmen should see to it that only the proper laws are enacted.
3. The pollution problem can be solved by an enlightened public opinion. It's too big a program for the fish and game authorities to handle, but pressure from sportsmen's organizations can go far toward forcing pollution abatement.
4. The cluttering of our waters and shorelines with cans, bottles, and other debris is leading to an increase in "keep out" signs. The remedy to this problem must

by R. W. ESCHMEYER

come chiefly from the sportsmen, themselves, through educational programs.

5. In many instances, the quality of our fishing depends on land use in the watershed—on the farming, forestry practices, etc. In some instances, such as preventing silting of fishing waters as a result of improper road building, the sportsmen can be extremely helpful by putting pressure on the road builders to correct the bad practices. In some other aspects of land use, especially on private land, improvement must come through education.

6. Some city water supply reservoirs are open to fishing, others aren't. There is no excuse for not permitting fishing on such waters, provided certain sanitary regulations are enforced. It's another problem for the organized sportsmen.

7. Each sportsmen's organization needs an active and capable education committee. It can be expected to do an effective job in helping out on both adult and juvenile conservation education.

8. Many bills introduced in Congress, if passed, may vitally affect our future fishing—some beneficially, others adversely. Passage of the bills depends to a considerable degree on the expressed views of constituents. Sportsmen can have a decided influence on national legislation as it affects national forests, national parks, and other public domain. State legislation can also greatly influence our fishing. Sportsmen must play an active part in the passing of desirable state and national legislation, and in the defeat of proposals which would harm our favorite form of recreation.

9. Sportsmen must play a vital role in having proper recognition given to fishing values in the building of dams for hydropower, flood control, or irrigation.

10. In areas where fishing waters are scarce, organized sportsmen can take the initiative in the building of fishing lakes, for club use or for public use. In some areas, this is an important club activity.

11. Each sportsmen's group should have an active "junior" program. This might include sponsoring kids for conservation camps, building kid fishing lakes, casting instruction, providing suitable conservation literature for youngsters, and a wide variety of other activities.

12. Assuring public access to existing waters is a big and growing problem. Organized sportsmen can influence it immensely.

Boating Regulations

Since the printing of the article on boating in the last issue of this magazine, many requests have come into this office asking us to print the complete boating regulations for State Lakes in Kansas. We are very happy to comply and the regulations are as follows:

BOATS—USE ON STATE LAKES—RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS. Boats may be used on all lakes under the control of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, subject to the restrictions and limitations as follows:

FIRST. Boats propelled by hand and sailboats are permitted on state lakes; inboard motorboats with motor not larger than 10 horsepower and outboard motors of a size not larger than 10 horsepower are permitted on state lakes for fishing purposes only.

SECOND. All boats must be currently registered with the caretaker or concessionaire at the lake, where caretakers or concessionaires are in attendance, and must be identified by numbers attached to the boat; and further, all persons desiring to use an inboard or outboard motorboat on state lakes, *but not including federal water impoundments or Lake McKinney in Kearny County*, must secure a permit from the Director of the Department at Pratt, Kansas, giving such information in the application for the permit as the Director may require. *The holder of a motor permit must report any change in ownership of the motor and surrender his permit for cancellation. The owner of a registered boat must report to the director any change in ownership of the boat, and the new owner must re-register the boat.*

THIRD. Houseboats and cabin boats are not permitted on state lakes.

FOURTH. The Director is authorized to revoke and confiscate the inboard or outboard motor permit of any person who uses said boat or motor on any state lake in any manner which is prohibited by law or regulation of said Commission.

FIFTH. All boats which are left or docked on state lakes must be anchored, properly maintained and cared for; and boats which are permitted to fill with water and remain submerged or are left on the lake shore in unsafe condition are declared to be a nuisance and dangerous to public health and must be removed from the lake or repaired and made useable within thirty (30) days after notice is given, by mail, by the caretaker of the park or the Director. Said notice to be addressed to the owner of the boat as designated in the registration. If such boat is not repaired or removed from the state property within said thirty (30) days, the Director is authorized to have the same removed, and, if the boat remains unclaimed, after holding the same for another thirty (30) days, shall have authority to declare the same unsafe and contraband and dispose of the same by sale, after ten (10) days public notice by posting in three places on the state park property; and if the boat is unsaleable, the same may be destroyed.

SIXTH. No person shall operate a boat within a water area which is marked, by buoys or some other distinguishing device, as a bathing or swimming area.

SEVENTH. No boat shall be loaded with passengers or cargo beyond its safe carrying capacity taking into consideration weather and other normal operating conditions.

EIGHTH. No person shall operate a motor boat on any state lake unless the same is provided with a stock factory muffler,

underwater exhaust or other modern devices capable of adequately muffling the sound of the exhaust of the engine. The phrase "adequately muffling" shall mean that the motor's exhaust at all times be so muffled or suppressed as not to create excessive or unusual noise. The discharge of cooling water through the exhaust of an inboard engine shall be considered an adequate muffling device.

NINTH. All boats when operating underway, or away from the shore or boat docks, between the hours of sunset and sunrise shall carry on board a lantern or flashlight capable of showing a white light visible all around the horizon at a distance of one-half mile or more and the person operating the boat shall display such lantern or light in sufficient time to avoid collision with another boat.

TENTH. No person shall enter on board or use a boat on any state lake without having in possession a Coast Guard or Red Cross approved life preserver, ring buoy or buoyant cushion. There must be such a life preserver for each person in the boat.

ELEVENTH. Traffic Rules:

(A) *Passing:* When two boats are approaching each other "head on" or nearly so (so as to involve risk of collision), it shall be the duty of each boat to bear to the right and pass the other boat on its left side.

(B) *Crossing:* When boats approach each other obliquely or at right angles, the boat approaching on the right side has the right of way.

(C) *Overtaking:* One boat may overtake another on either side but must grant right of way to the overtaken boat.

TWELFTH. It shall be unlawful for any person who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs or barbitol or any person who is a habitual user of same to operate, propel or be in actual physical control of any boat. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any boat or any person having such in charge or in control to authorize or knowingly permit the same to be propelled or operated by any person who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor, narcotic drugs or barbitol or any person who is a habitual user of same.

THIRTEENTH. Special regulations for Lake McKinney, in Kearny County, and federal water impoundment areas under jurisdiction of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission. All other regulations are applicable and in addition the following shall apply to such water areas.

(A) Every operator of a motorboat shall at all times navigate the same in a careful and prudent manner and at such rate of speed as not to endanger the life, limb or property of any person.

(B) Reckless operation of a motorboat shall include operating the same in a manner which unnecessarily interferes with the free and proper use of the waters of the state or unnecessarily endangers other boats therein, or the life and limb of any person.

(C) No person shall operate any motorboat at a rate of speed greater than will permit him in the exercise of reasonable care to bring the motorboat to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.

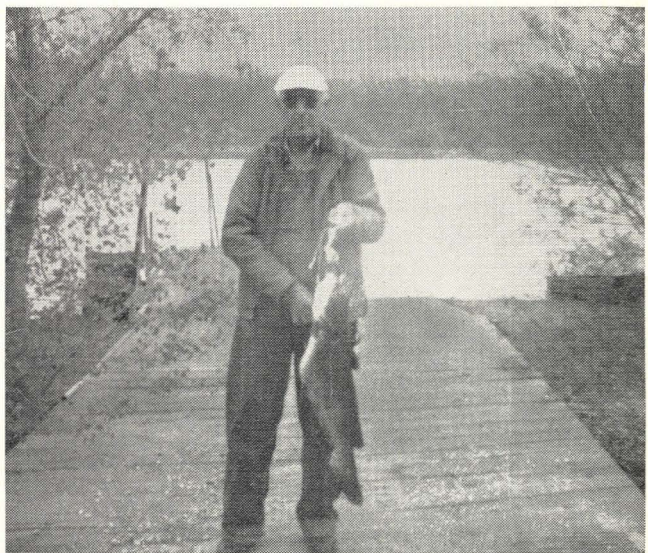
(D) Nothing in the provisions of this section should be construed to mean that the operator of a motorboat actually competing in a race or regatta which is sanctioned by the Commission shall not attempt to attain high speeds on a marked racing course. (Authorized by G. S. 1947 Supp., 32-224, 32-225, 32-226 & 74-3302; compiled December 23, 1947; amended June 21, 1949; amended March 28, 1955; amended June 22, 1956.)



Channel catfish production at the Pratt fish hatchery is the best ever this year. This is a good fact considering the number of applications coming into headquarters for fish for stocking of ponds. The spring rains which have filled the many new and dried-up ponds in the state have created an unprecedented demand. Fish deliveries begin in September after the year's hatch has reached fingerling size. Approximately 8,000 newly hatched channel fry are contained in the fine mesh net pictured. Get your microscope and count 'em.



This **six-pound channel cat** was a former resident of Leavenworth County State Lake. That is until it grabbed a minnow on the end of a line. On the other end of that line was B. Sprague of Leavenworth who had a fine time landing the fish.



Leavenworth County State Lake yielded this 13-pound channel catfish on the second day of May. The lucky fisherman was "Moon" Mullen of Kansas City, Kan., who makes frequent trips to this northeast Kansas fishing spot.

HUNTING BY PERMISSION ONLY

By KEN WRIGHT

From one end of the nation to the other, hunters raise a hue and cry every time they see a new "NO HUNTING" or similar sign which has been tacked to a tree or post on their favorite hunting grounds. They are not alone in their grief, however, because the landowner comes in for his share of the aches and pains concerning posting.

It all boils down to the fact that it doesn't matter which side of the fence you happen to be on, posting is a pain in the neck to all concerned. The really sorry part of the situation is that hunter, landowner—and wildlife, will be the ultimate losers unless we find a workable solution. The hunter will find fewer places to hunt and there is the possibility that even if he could, there wouldn't be enough birds to hunt. If both hunting spots and birds are scarce as hen's teeth, the landowner loses the protection of the birds who go a long way in keeping insects at a low level. From a management standpoint, wildlife must be dealt with on an over-all basis. Open seasons are declared because a surplus of birds or other wildlife exists. Good management demands that this surplus be harvested insofar as possible since an overpopulation of a given species means less food, less protective or "escape" cover, and less nesting cover. The land can support just so much. Nature will harvest the balance if man does not.

Posting, prohibiting hunting entirely, sets up thousands of small refuges in the open area thus defeating the purpose of an open season.

Posting can be likened to poison. In small doses it can do no good. An overdose, however, means the end.

The landowner must have some protection for his property. Too often the hunter has abused the privilege of hunting on private land. He leaves gates open, drives over crops and shoots holes through the landowner's barn. Who can blame the owner for barricading himself behind a multitude of "No Hunting" signs?

On the other side of the fence John Jones, hearing through the grapevine that Mr. Smith down the line lost a bull or other animal, assumed that a careless hunter was the culprit and promptly begins buying signs in carload lots.

Then there is the posting done because the landowner just plain dislikes hunters. Still another, and probably the least desirable of all, is the posting done by hunters who, either with or without the consent of the landowner, take it upon themselves to put up signs on Mr. Jones' property. Too many times this type of posting is done so one man, or a group, can hunt with-

out having to share his luck with a fellow nimrod. In other words—pure selfishness and greed.

Everyone realizes that you cannot make a blanket statement and say that all posting of land is either good or bad. Each case must be judged on individual merits. No one can deny, however, that constant squabbling, court cases, etc. is bad for everyone concerned. The hunter cannot continue to classify all landowners as a threat to free public hunting and neither can the landowner continue to classify all hunters as destroyers of property and a menace to life and limb, at least this is true if we are to have any harmony whatsoever.

No matter how much legislation is passed, if posting becomes a grave problem then human relationships are bound to suffer. We can go a long way towards improving relationships if we but realize that there probably will be a minority of hunters who refuse to look upon their hunting as a privilege granted by the landowner, with us always. By the same token we will always have the landowner who refuses to believe in good wildlife management and who dislikes hunters in general.

Looking at the problem from a logical standpoint there are many things we can do, hunters and landowners alike, to eliminate strife where hunting and fishing are concerned.

1. If you must post your land post only those areas where it is necessary to protect your property. And while you are at it why not use something like this, "No Hunting Without Permission" instead of "No Hunting."

2. Don't put all hunters in the same classification even though you may have had unfortunate experiences with some. Remember—the good sport will respect your sign and the outlaw will sneak in the back way if you post.

3. Don't listen to idle rumors about hunters destroying property. Be sure before you blame.

4. Whenever possible go ask the landowner for permission to hunt even though the land isn't posted. Give him a chance to point out the areas where he would rather you didn't hunt.

5. Don't go around looking for illegal posting as an excuse to hunt on the land.

6. Respect the property of the man on whose land you hunt the same as you would expect him to respect yours.

7. Work together in building wildlife habitat and carrying out other programs for your mutual benefit.

8. Respect the individual rights of each other.

9. Be slow to accuse one another of neglect, carelessness and the thousand and one other things which bring about hard feelings.

10. If you see hunters abusing their privilege by destroying private property, you, as a good sportsman, should make it your job to see that they are made to pay.

11. Make the Golden Rule your hunting policy.



Talk about a bragging-size string of fish—this one surely fills the bill. Alfred Cranford of Hutchinson found Kingman County State Lake in just-right condition this spring and the result is pictured here. This state lake is a consistent producer of good fishing.

What's Cookin', Doc?

The squirrel season will be open in most states when you read this. Unless you have collaborated with the little fellows on a Brunswick stew—chum, you "ain't never ate no" squirrel dish yet! It's done this way:

One small can corn (six ears); one pint lima beans; four potatoes; one onion; one quart sliced tomatoes; three teaspoons sugar; one-half pound butter; one tablespoon salt; one teaspoon pepper.

Clean squirrels (two or three of them) and cut into pieces. To four quarts of boiling water, add salt, minced onion, beans, corn, potatoes, squirrels and pepper. Cover and simmer for two hours. Add sugar and tomatoes. Simmer an additional hour. Add butter, simmer ten minutes, bring to boil, remove from fire. Add salt and pepper.

Strange Animal Fight

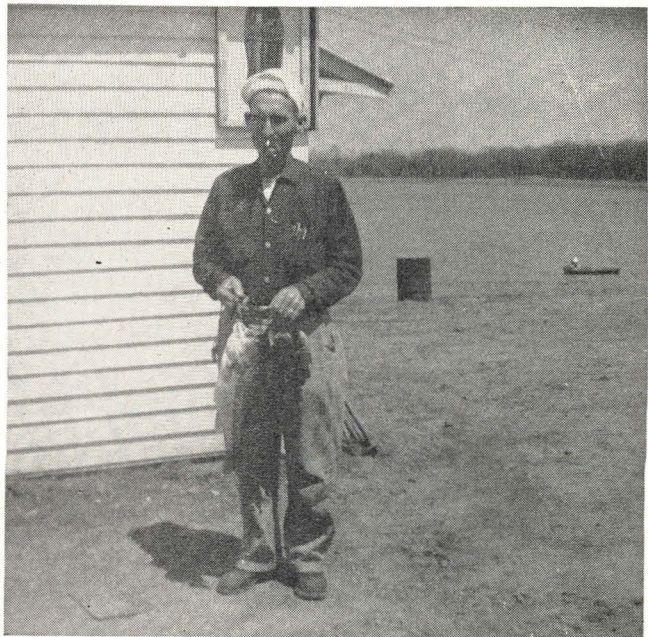
A biologist for the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, H. C. Hahn, told me about one of the most amazing fights he had ever witnessed—a rat versus snake fight. The epic struggle took place on the Frank Geistweidt ranch, about twenty-six miles south of Mason, Texas.

Hahn was watching deer grazing on the ranch when he glanced around to see a five-foot racer snake crawling up a mesquite tree with a squealing rat in its mouth. A second rat ran up the tree trunk and attacked the snake when it was about four feet above the ground.

The rat bit the snake five or six times on the dorsal side in the middle of the body. The snake tried to cross to another limb with the rat still in his mouth, but failed to make it.

The rat on his back just dug in deeper and hung on. Finally, the snake dropped the rat in its mouth. The second rat turned the snake loose, jumped to the ground and ran off with rat No. 1. The snake crawled down the tree trunk and disappeared in the opposite direction—still hungry! The battle took just one minute according to Hahn's watch.

The prairie falcon is able to go without food for rather long periods of time and is well satisfied to feed rather heavily four or five times during the week.



Lee Hoag of Yates Center proudly displays a four-pound black bass taken from Woodson County State Lake. Those smaller fish are bullheads.

ARRESTS—FEBRUARY, 1957

Name and address	Offense	Date of offense	Fine
Jessie G. Easler; Junction City	No hunting license	1-31-57	\$5.00
K. William Pless; New Cambria	No hunting license	1-31-57	5.00
Charles Parker; Radley	No hunting license	1-27-57	10.00
I. J. Tharp; Shallow Water	No hunting license	2- 6-57	5.00
Bud Braden; Glen Elder	No hunting license	1-27-57	5.00
Kendall Gish; Glen Elder	No hunting license	1-27-57	5.00
L. Rago; Salina	No hunting license	2-14-57	5.00
Charles Lathan; Salina	No hunting license	2-18-57	5.00
Enis Cale Bell; Wichita	No hunting license	2-24-57	5.00
Donald Wilson; Atchison	Trespassing	1-27-57	5.00
Clifford Downing; Atchison	Trespassing	1-27-57	5.00
Jesse Downing; Atchison	Trespassing	1-27-57	5.00
John Downing; Atchison	Trespassing	1-27-57	5.00
Gene Jenkins; Hutchinson	Trespassing	2- 9-57	10.00
Don Gilliland; Hutchinson	Trespassing	2- 9-57	10.00
Rolland Gilbert Murrow, Jr.; Coffeyville	Shooting firearms in state park; shooting at ducks on state lake	2- 2-57	5.00
Jerry Parnell Cobb; Coffeyville	Shooting firearms in state park; shooting at ducks on state lake	2- 2-57	5.00
R. M. McBees; Eudora	Take fish by means other than baited hook (snagging)	2- 9-57	10.00
J. C. Runkles; Bonner Springs	Take fish by means other than baited hook (snagging)	2-16-57	20.00
Richard D. Couch; Coffeyville	No fishing license	2-14-57	5.00
Victor E. Wallace; Arkansas City	Hunt ducks in closed season	2-22-57	50.00
Andrew Brooks Steele; Topeka	Hunt, shoot, kill, take and possess quail during closed season	2- 1-57	50.00
Robert E. Wells, Jr.; Joplin, Mo.	Kill and possess wild snow goose during closed season	2- 3-57	10.00
Vernon Wuerdeman; Wichita	Kill and possess wild snow goose during closed season	2- 3-57	10.00

ARRESTS—MARCH, 1957

Name and address	Offense	Date of offense	Fine
Henry Ford; Independence	No fishing license	3-12-57	\$5.00
Leo Cooper; Wichita	No fishing license	3-16-57	5.00
Robert E. Schaub; Great Bend	No fishing license	3-17-57	10.00
James Robins; Manhattan	No fishing license	3-16-57	5.00
Clarence Beaumont; Clifton	No fishing license	3-17-57	10.00
Dale Geer; Manhattan	No fishing license	3-17-57	10.00
John McCoy; Pittsburg	No fishing license	3-30-57	5.00
Marion Newbury; Pittsburg	No fishing license	3-30-57	5.00
Ralph Prickett; Wichita	No fishing license	3-31-57	5.00
Raford L. Dunaway; Salina	Fishing with set lines in a state park	3-10-57	10.00
Walter C. Weisel; Salina	Fishing with set lines in a state park	3-10-57	10.00
Charles Brumley; Topeka	Take fish by means other than pole, line and baited hook (snagging)	3- 6-57	15.00
Edward Shipshee; Horton	Possessing fur during closed season	11-27-56	10.00
John Cook; Cheney	Shoot ducks out of season	3- 7-57	*
Don E. Croy; Manhattan	Take migratory game birds with shotgun capable of holding more than three shells in magazine and chamber combined	11-22-56	10.00

ARRESTS—APRIL, 1957

Name and address	Offense	Date of offense	Fine
John Henry Lawton; Topeka	No fishing license	3- 2-57	\$5.00
Vernon L. Dixon; Coffeyville	No fishing license	4-10-57	5.00
Joseph Rosalez; Coffeyville	No fishing license	4-10-57	5.00
Glenn Hartke; Manhattan	No fishing license	3-31-57	5.00
David Norman Reed; Kansas City	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
John D. Bruggen; Topeka	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
George W. Moore; Topeka	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
Vernon R. Elliott; Topeka	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
John Cuiry; Topeka	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
David W. Jaeger; Topeka	No fishing license	4-14-57	5.00
C. L. Johnson; Council Grove	No fishing license	4-18-57	1.00
Kenneth Pigorsch; Herington	No fishing license	4-18-57	5.00
Earnest Jacobs; Wichita	No fishing license	4-20-57	10.00
John W. Stephens; McPherson	No fishing license	4-19-57	10.00
Tom McHaley; Emporia	No fishing license	4-25-57	5.00
Lewis Gordon; WaKeeney	No fishing license	4-26-57	5.00
John H. Hambleton, Jr.; Independence	No fishing license	4-27-57	5.00
Ephraim Forsberg; Long Beach, Cal.	No fishing license	4-28-57	10.00
Dee Cox; Peru	No fishing license	4-24-57	15.00
John Powers; Wichita	No fishing license	4-24-57	15.00
Richard Reid; Wichita	No fishing license	4-27-57	10.00
Dean McMullen; Emporia	No fishing license	4-27-57	5.00

* Paroled on payment of costs.

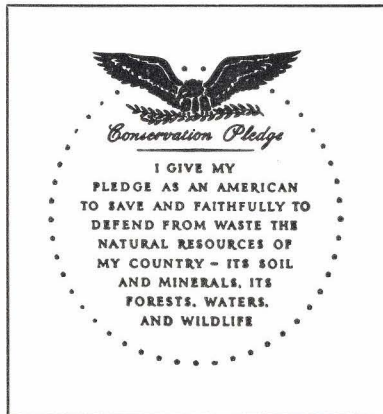
Name and address	Offense	Date of offense	Fine
Gerald Robert Richards; Kinsley	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
Don Lohrengel; Emporia	No fishing license	4-27-57	5.00
Mabel Pratt; Hoxie	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
Gilbert E. Pracht; Oakley	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
Harold Leonard; Dodge City	No fishing license	4-27-57	5.00
Elmer Rust; Smith Center	No fishing license	4-21-57	10.00
John D. Rowe, Jr.; Olathe	Hunting rabbits from public roadway after dark	4-20-57	10.00
Edward R. Story; Olathe	Hunting rabbits from public roadway after dark	4-20-57	10.00
Gerald O. Burton; Independence	Operating too many poles in state lake	4- 4-57	5.00
Robert Casteel; Lawrence	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	10.00
Bill James; Lawrence	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	10.00
Toni Pace; Lawrence	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	10.00
Paul Cusack; Lawrence	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	10.00
Arned Geide; Emporia	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	5.00
Melvin Tawnley; Emporia	Littering state park with trash	4-27-57	5.00
Nathaniel Lars; Kansas City	Build fire in unauthorized place in state park	4- 6-57	5.00
Bob Schulte; Wichita	Illegal fishing	4-11-57	10.00
Sherman H. P. Scott; Harper	Attempt to take or kill wild game birds out of season	4-14-57	10.00
H. Niles Stebens; Liberal	Possess dead body of freshly killed wild duck	4- 4-57	25.00
Edward J. Reischl; Chicago, Ill.	Misrepresentation	4-17-57	5.00
Paul Paschetti; Chicopee	Possess squirrel during closed season; hunting without license	4-18-57	20.00
Edgar E. Brammell; Leavenworth	Operating trammel net on Missouri River without commercial fishing license	4-11-57	10.00
Edwin McCabe; Salina	Driving motor vehicle in restricted area in state park	4-21-57	5.00

ARRESTS—MAY, 1957

Name and address	Offense	Date of offense	Fine
J. T. Drye; Kennopolis, N. Car.	No fishing license	5- 4-57	\$1.00
Tom Arrison; Topeka	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
C. M. Peacock; Gardner	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
C. J. Richardson; Salina	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
Elroy Zacher; Salina	No fishing license	4-28-57	5.00
Ralph N. Huffstetler; Salina	No fishing license	5- 4-57	5.00
Orval Wallace Todd; Eureka	No fishing license	5- 9-57	10.00
Forrest Johnson; Topeka	No fishing license	5-10-57	5.00
John Parker; Topeka	No fishing license	5-10-57	5.00
Honore G. Bucker; Ponca City, Okla.	No fishing license	5-13-57	25.00
George Albler; Chanute	No fishing license	5- 5-57	10.00
Wallace Guliford; Liberal	No fishing license	5-11-57	10.00
Clyde Arnold German; Rosston, Okla.	No fishing license	5-12-57	10.00
Kenneth M. Cornell; Laverne, Okla.	No fishing license	5-12-57	10.00
Dewitt Smithton; Rosston, Okla.	No fishing license	5-12-57	5.00
James Ralph Shannon; Liberal	No fishing license	5-12-57	5.00
Claude L. Harris; Coffeyville	No fishing license	5-15-57	5.00
Bob Barton; Emporia	No fishing license	5-15-57	5.00
Jim Hodges; Emporia	No fishing license	5-15-57	5.00
Paul Sommers; Emporia	No fishing license	5-15-57	5.00
Charles Hoffman; Salina	No fishing license	5- 9-57	5.00
Albert Alliston; Havana	No fishing license	5-12-57	5.00
Dale Stuart; Lebanon	No fishing license	5-12-57	5.00
K. A. Werbach; Wichita	No fishing license	5-18-57	10.00
Donald Lechner; Seneca	No fishing license	5-19-57	5.00
Marvin E. Gash; Salina	No fishing license	5- 7-57	10.00
Charles W. Zabel, Jr.; Wetmore	No fishing license	5-17-57	5.00
Leta Forsburg; Logan	No fishing license	5-19-57	5.00
R. V. Nightengale; Pawhuska, Okla.	No fishing license	5-19-57	10.00
Dean Thompson; Concordia	No fishing license	5-20-57	5.00
William Gilchrist; Los Angeles, Cal.	No fishing license	5-22-57	10.00
George Schoneberg; Baxter Springs	No fishing license	5-24-57	5.00
Robert E. Harris; Manhattan	No fishing license	5-26-57	10.00
Thomas Greany; Manhattan	No fishing license	5-18-57	5.00
Steve Ratliff; Pittsburg	No fishing license	5-22-57	10.00
LeRoy Simmons; Whiting	No fishing license	5-25-57	10.00
Nellie Edmundson; Scott City	No fishing license	5-26-57	5.00
Gary Kanaga; Ness City	No fishing license	5-21-57	5.00
Mark L. McHenry; Delphos	Take walleye measuring less than 15 inches in length	5- 5-57	10.00
Arlo Sporer; Russell Springs	Take walleye measuring less than 15 inches in length	4-28-57	10.00
Leslie Marty; Colby	Take walleye measuring less than 15 inches in length	5-12-57	10.00
Harry Simeno; Lawrence	Littering state park with beer cans	4-27-57	5.00
Paul Swoboda; Lawrence	Littering state park with beer cans	4-27-57	5.00
James H. Merritt; Salina	Littering state park with beer cans	4-25-57	5.00
Clark Hewett; Pratt	Setting bank lines in state lake	4-25-57	10.00
Roger Bales; Pratt	Setting bank lines in state lake	4-25-57	10.00
Henry Nicholas; Pratt	Setting bank lines in state lake	4-25-57	10.00
Walter Whitaker; Paola	Attempting to take fish with illegal devise commonly known as a fish gig	5-19-57	10.00

<i>Name and address</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Date of offense</i>	<i>Fine</i>
Alfred Ziegler; Louisburg	Attempting to take fish with illegal devise commonly known as a fish gig	5-19-57	10.00
Julius Warren; Kansas City	Take fish by means other than baited hook—by use of dip net	5-30-57	20.00
James Harris; Kansas City	Take fish by means other than baited hook—by use of dip net	5-30-57	20.00
Edgar Nance; Kansas City	Take fish by means other than baited hook—by use of dip net	5-31-57	20.00
Frank L. Foster; Coffeyville	Using oversize multiple hooks; using more than one multiple hook	5- 4-57	10.00
Clarence Leon Ele; Independence	Using oversize multiple hooks; using more than one multiple hook	5- 4-57	10.00
Charles Barney, Jr.; Neodesha	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-19-57	10.00
Raymond Jackson; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	†
Gary Fisher; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	5.00
Clarence Fisher; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	5.00
Lewis Hepner; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	5.00
Raymond Wagner, Jr.; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	†
Donald Wright; Coffeyville	Operating boat without life preservers on state lake	5-28-57	†
Edward Harloff; Evanston, Ill.	No hunting license	5- 8-57	5.00
Donald Ray Bruce; Coffeyville	Swimming in state lake in undesignated area	5-26-57	1.00
Daniel Fuller; Coffeyville	Swimming in state lake in undesignated area	5-26-57	†
Dale Randolph; Lubbock, Texas	No fishing license; operate trotline containing more than 25 hooks	5-21-57	15.00
Dorsey Mitchell, Jr.; Kansas City, Mo.	Misrepresentation	5-31-57	5.00
Gary Jackson; Liberal	No fishing license; take walleye under length of 15 inches	5-18-57	15.00
James Kenneth Brinker; Cawker City	Speeding in state park	5-12-57	25.00
Van Allen; Horton	Handfishing	5-19-57	10.00
Richard Allen; Horton	Handfishing	5-19-57	10.00
Odist A. Hall; Ponca City, Okla.	Operating 40-foot minnow seine; no fishing license	5-13-57	100.00
Frank Hall; Ponca City, Okla.	No fishing license; possess 40-foot minnow seine; attempt to haul minnows from state	5-13-57	175.00
Wendell Peterson; Garfield	Shoot deer in closed season	5-13-57	100.00
Charles H. Christie; Iola	Operating pole and line with illegal number of hooks	5-23-57	10.00
Alfred Krause; Lawrence	Misconduct in state park	5- 7-57	5.00
Gerald Stamm; Topeka	Operate more than two rods and reels in state lake	5- 4-57	5.00
Pearl Lee Perkins; Wichita	Operate motorboat without motor having been registered	5- 4-57	5.00

† Was required to write a 1,000 word theme on why the law, rules and regulations should be obeyed. These violators are under 16 years of age.



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