This Florida Wildlife Magazine Digital Preservation Project is developed with financial assistance provided by the William H. Flowers, Jr. Foundation and the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc. through the Conserve Wildlife Tag grant program.

1950

Vol. 4 Issue 5

October

Scanned by:
The Research Information Center
of the Fish & Wildlife Research Institute

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
New Kingsley Beach

PICNIC GROUNDS
WATER SKIING
OUTBOARD MOTORING
BARbecued MEALS

OPEN PAVILION
CHILDREN'S BEACHES
BOWLING — BILLIARDS
LUNCHEONS — DINING

New Kingsley Beach

at Kingsley Lake
CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

WRITE FOR INFORMATION
GEORGE LARI, President

Florida WILDLIFE 
OCTOBER, 1950

For the Conservation, Restoration, Protection, of Our Game and Fish

Published monthly by the
FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

In This Issue

Now They Are Gone
by Bob Dahne

The Disappearing Panther
by O. Earl Frye

"Mister Joe"
by Jack Walters

Garfish Rodeo
by Don Roberts

Youth and Conservation
by George M. Heard

More Fun Than A Circus
by Bill Snyder

Reptiles Can Be Beautiful
by Charles H. Anderson

* DEPARTMENTS

STICKS AND STONES
3 FIRING LINES
25

EDITORIAL
5 PROFESSOR SMARTY
26

KNOW YOUR REPTILES
14 FLORIDA’S OUTDOORS SPEAKS
38

* COMMISSIONERS

CECIL M. WEBB, Chairman
MILLER JOINER, Second District
L. G. MORRIS, Third District
D. C. JONES, Fourth District
M. C. LEWIS, Fifth District

Tampa
Jacksonville
Monticello
Naples
Orlando

* ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

COLEMAN NEWMAN
Director

Ben McLachlin
Assistant Director

Dr. I. N. Kennedy
Administrator of Public Relations

William H. Snyder
Director, Information-Education

Bart Peaden
Administrative Assistant

C. H. ANDERSON Picture Editor

Florida Wildlife is published monthly by the Division of Information and Education, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Tallahassee, Fla. Single copy, 10¢. subscription rate $1.00 per year. Change of address should be reported promptly.

Unsolicited pictures and editorial material will be handled with care, but Florida Wildlife cannot assume any responsibility for loss or damage of material. Copyright in any material in this publication is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Copies of this material would be appreciated.

(Continued On Page 33)

The Cover

"Frightened Fawns." A week-old baby makes his first contact with man.

—Photo by Ted Swims.
They Are Thieves!

Let us apply the label correctly. Make no mistake about it: The wild forests, the streams, the fish and the game of this state are public resources. They belong to you and me, and the millions of people like us, because we are the public. They do not belong to you, they do not belong to me, nor to the man down the street, individually, but to all of us together. We, all of us, are the public.

Therefore, the persons who destroy our public resources are our enemies. They are thieves!

Worse, they are vandals, they are destroyers, and they are criminals. Just as the men who destroy our public parks, our streets, or our homes are criminals, so, too, are the men who destroy or deface our public resources.

Let us not forget these facts. Those who would burn or cut down our public forests are enemies of the public—you and I. Those who would destroy or pollute our streams, rivers, lakes or ponds are also our enemies. Those who would slaughter or endanger our public wildlife are destroying or endangering property that belongs to you and me—the public.

Furthermore, the men who take, trap or kill our wildlife in defiance of the public laws are defying us, because we are the public. Do not forget that the public laws were made to protect the property that belongs to the public—you and I, together.

Game-law violators, then, are thieves. Game laws were made to protect and conserve the wild creatures that belong to the public. Without such laws, our game and fish would gradually disappear. There would soon be none left for you and me—the public—to enjoy.

So it follows that those who violate the public game laws are helping destroy our public wildlife. They are actually stealing things from the public. They are thieves.

There can be no excuse for violating these laws or these principles.

Ignorance is no excuse, for it is the duty of every individual to acquaint himself fully with the public laws.

Nor does it make any difference whatsoever whether you and I, personally, are in full and complete agreement with such laws. We, as the public, duly elected and appointed certain people to represent us in government, and these people, in their wisdom, saw fit to pass certain laws designed to protect that property that belongs to us—the public.

Nor can we excuse the game-law violator on the ground that he is our personal friend or neighbor. For one who destroys our property automatically becomes our enemy. Those who destroy public property automatically become enemies of the public, and you and I are the public.

The public should consider game law violators as thieves!

Waller P. Driver
Commissioner,
Second District

An Editorial
beautiful snowy egrets covered the trees and marshes of Florida. At sunset, as they flew over their nesting grounds, the sound of their beating wings was a whistling in the air, and their white pillows of snow against the darkening skies.

And then the slaughter began. Because of the snowy plumage, or "sigarettes," of these glorious birds looked well in a hat, and the lure of commercial hunters arose. Sneaking into the vast rookeries where egrets nested, hunters flushed their wings, and young, the plume-hunters shot, trapped, netted and bludgeoned their prey.

And it is a fact that, since the white plumes were evident only during the breeding season, the adroit egrets were killed only while they were nesting, and the young birds were left to die slowly and painlessly of starvation.

So the snowy egrets passed away, millions upon millions of them, until there were in the state of Florida. Killed for insignificant bits of fluffy white feathers. The blood ran down the trees and eons into the ground. The plume-hunters' heads would have been rolet in the sunshine. Death filled the air. By 1910 it was finished. The snowy egrets covered parts of Florida like a blanket of snow. Now they are gone.

TIME was when fat for seals numbered in the millions as they chuckled, barked and frolicked over their breeding grounds at the Pribilof Islands off Alaska. Marvelous swimmers, the young seals playfully chased each other in the sea, darting and leaping like graceful porpoises while the elder bulls contentedly grunted and fought over their harems of females.

As winter approached, great herds of seals migrated over 2,000,000 southward through storms and gales until they reached the sunny Pacific. Here, in the spring, they returned again to their feeding grounds in the North Pacific Ocean.

And then it happened. The seal bodies were gathered up into sacks, poured into wagons, crammed into freight cars and sent to market. Still more were shipped back to the continent across the nation. And yet the penguins came.

Then, astonishingly, like a clap of thunder, came the fact that the penguin pigeons existed no more. So quickly did it happen that the American people, for more than thirty years afterward, refused to believe that the population of the penguin pigeons had been exterminated. But they were, for the last remaining passenger pigeon died out at the Peoria, Illinois. And out of all those billions of birds, there are only a few moldering, valued specimens left in the world today.

So once they darkened the skies over Florida and America, and now they are gone.

Meat was sent to market in hundreds of tons. Then the market broke and only the hides could be sold, but still the slaughter continued. Millions more were killed just for their hides which were made into blankets, rugs and overcoats.

Then, suddenly, the buffalo were gone. By the year 1895, only a handful, about 800, of these wonderful creatures were left on the face of the earth.

So thickly did the whitened bones of the vanished buffalo cover the plains that men scraped them up from the ground and sent them to market by the car-load to be made into fertilizer.

Now there are no great herds of wild buffalo. The few thousand head that remain are specimens practically hand raised in private and government reservations.

Once they were so thick that they covered the earth like a dark, living blanket. Now they are gone.

Listen! Not so long ago, millions of

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

One day, recking with the scent of sour blood, picking at their greasy oiling and holding their dripping knives, the sealers straightened up from their gruesome task to look for one more seal. But there was none.

The few that remain today are now, fortunately, protected by an international treaty.

So the great herds of seals once roamed the oceans, bluster, playfully and energetically. Now they are, too, gone.

And listen to this monotonous story. You will soon be one of the people.

Some men still alive can remember the sad tale of the passenger pigeons that once closed the skies over Florida and the other states of the Union. So numerous were they that the passage of a single flock overhead would be heralded by a rushing roar of wings that sounded like a waterfall in the distance, and then that would be followed by a sudden darkness as if the sun had been extinguished. Pigeons filled the sky. One flock on the wing was estimated to cover an area a mile in width and 240 miles in length, and to contain over two billion passenger pigeons. And that was just one flock.

So the hunters came, with their nets, clubs, and shotguns, using live pigeons to decoy the wild flocks in.

And the live decoys had their eyes cruelly sewn shut. Then they were fastened to a stick and flattered up and down so that their wings flapped innocently in the air, and down from the sky came the wild flocks to destroy their destruction.
THE DISAPPEARING PANTHER

BY
O. EARL FRYE
With
BILL and LES PIPER

TO MOST Florida hunters and stockmen, the panther has long been considered a "varmint.") Why then has the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission placed this animal on the restricted list and giving it the status of a game animal? Back in the old days when farms were widely scattered and stock was mostly free ranging, the panther represented only a menace to the livelihood of the settler. Today, with more intensive agricultural and stock raising practices, the movement of the small farmer from the large cattle ranches and timber holdings, and the relegation of the panther to the more remote woodland areas of the state, this aspect of the habits of the panther is of less importance. The panther is still capable of destroying livestock but its opportunities for so doing are now more limited.

No one questions the ability and the occasional tendency of the panther to kill cattle or horses, but probably its greatest potential damage to livestock in Florida lies in the destruction of free ranging hogs. The question immediately arises: Does the pleasure the hunter or nature lover receives from hunting, or merely seeing this animal, outweigh the loss of a few razor-back hogs? This question is of particular significance when one considers the fact that the free ranging hog is deemed more of a nuisance than a benefit by most cattlemen and timber growers due to its rooting activities on pasture lands, its reputation as a carrier of screw worms, and its destruction of young pine trees. In addition, the semi-wild hog is recognized by most wildlife authorities and sportsmen as one of the greatest competitors of deer, turkey, and other forms of wildlife for natural food such as acorns. It is entirely possible that in most of Florida a taste for pork is more in favor of these big cats than against them.

Occasionally one specific individual panther will form bad livestock killing habits and in such cases the culprit will have to be destroyed. The new laws of the Commission make provisions for such occasions, and their intention is to take every precaution against major destruction of livestock and property by the Panther. At the same time, they represent an attempt to put a stop to the needless slaughter of this interesting animal so that it may be preserved for future generations.

OCTOBER, 1950
“Mister Joe”

The Dean of Florida Wildlife Officers has been cursed and idolized, threatened and worshipped, shot at and befriended. Meet a man to remember—Joseph M. Atkins!

By JACK WALTERS

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

The “Dean of Florida Wildlife Officers,” Joe Atkins, has seen the techniques of law enforcement progress from horse-and-saddle days to the modern fully-equipped radio Jeeps.

Physically, Joe Atkins has the vigorous movements of a man but half his age. Just his way of walking or moving about a room tells you that here is a man who can still slip easily and quietly through tangled underbrush and over open ground. On the hunt, after man or beast, Mister Joe can rapidly outdistance most outdoorsmen, a fact that many of those who know him well readily admit. Far more important than physical strength, however, is the mental strength called courage.

One day, not too long ago, a certain squirrel hunter was moving cautiously through the swamps. Moving cautiously because he knew that he was hunting illegally. Squirrels were out of season.

Suddenly, high up in a distant tree, he saw the quick, flitting movements of a squirrel’s tail, accompanied by the shrill chittering of the excited little beast. Quickly, almost childishly, he sighted down the barrel of his 22-caliber rifle and pulled the trigger. With the sharp crack of the exploding shell, the squirrel spun sideways into the empty air and dropped limply to the ground.

Advancing quickly, the law-breaker added the still warm animal to the others in his pocket, and continued on his hunt, the racketing noise of the rifle occasioning much of his progress.

But, unknown to him, the sound of the shots reached the distant ears of Wildlife Officer Joe Atkins. And Joe immediately took up the trail.

Moving quickly, but stealthily, Mister Joe slipped down into the swamps and, with his detailed knowledge of the territory, soon approached the area of slaughter.

Meanwhile, the shots had ceased, the illegal hunt was over, and the swamp regained its brooding silence.

But you can’t fire a rifle without leaving evidence behind you. Joe’s trained eyes soon caught the brassy gleam of an empty cartridge. Picking it up, he pocketed it for future reference, and then set about patiently tracking his man down.

At home now, the hunter dropped his illegal game on the table, set the loaded rifle by the door, and went out into the clearing for an arrold of firewood. He was almost back to the door with his burden before he

(Continued on Page 27)

J ust what qualities must a man have to rate the highly desirable title of “The Dean of Florida Wildlife Officers?”

Well, it takes honesty for one. And if Diogenes, who once set forth at midnight with a lighted lamp in search of an honest man, could travel the highways of Florida today, he would gladly shutter his light at Blountstown when he met Joe Atkins. For Joe Atkins, dean of Florida’s 157 wildlife officers, is one of those rare individuals—a completely honest man.

Now to most of us, honesty merely means being truthful and fair to everyone, providing it suits our purposes. But to the few people like Joe Atkins, honesty is a way of life. It is almost a creed.

The fact is that Joe Atkins, both as a wildlife officer and as a person, has always been completely honest. He has, sometimes at the risk of both life and reputation, been honest with himself, his relatives, his friends, and the thousands of sportsmen he has contacted during his 21 years of serving the conservation interests of Florida.

Mister Joe’s honesty is the first quality that strikes you as he gazes at you with clear, pale blue eyes and says, quietly: “If a man’s going to be a wildlife officer, he should BE one. If not, he shouldn’t be one.”

By that, Joe means that a wildlife officer should believe in honestly enforcing the conservation laws of Florida, making them apply equally to every person, whether rich or poor, male or female, friend or foe. And Mister Joe, as he is commonly called even by his fellow officers, has always done just that.

At times, during his long years of serving the State of Florida, Joe has regrettably found it necessary to arrest one of his own relatives, some of his friends, and even the wife of the mayor of one of Florida’s largest cities. He has, at other times, arrested a sobbing woman, boys who were starving, preachers who should have known better, people who thought they were innocent, and people who knew they were wrong.

In making these arrests, Joe, like any good enforcement officer, has been cursed and idolized, threatened and worshipped, shot at and befriended. But, in every case, Joe Atkins, because he thinks and works honestly, has been right, and has only performed his duty as he found necessary.

But besides this rare quality of being honest, there are many more qualities that a man should possess before he rates the title of “The Dean.”

One of these characteristics is physical strength. Joe Atkins, at 72 years of age, still bears the inerasable marks which a lifetime spent in woods and fields has left upon him. In his sun-bronzed, weather-creased face, you can see the sublime confidence, quiet patience and wise understanding that a man must have to live on equal terms with nature. Looking deep into his calm eyes, you can almost see the dim flickering of long-forgotten campfires, the dust of many ancient trails, as well as the faint scars left by the mingled joy and pain that accompany a long life of service. In his gauntleted hands it is easy to visualize the strength and sureness that have competently guided a blooded horse through marsh and forest for many years.

One day, not too long ago, a certain squirrel hunter was moving cautiously through the swamps. Moving cautiously because he knew that he was hunting illegally. Squirrels were out of season.

Suddenly, high up in a distant tree, he saw the quick, flitting movements of a squirrel’s tail, accompanied by the shrill chittering of the excited little beast. Quickly, almost childishly, he sighted down the barrel of his 22-caliber rifle and pulled the trigger. With the sharp crack of the exploding shell, the squirrel spun sideways into the empty air and dropped limply to the ground.

Advancing quickly, the law-breaker added the still warm animal to the others in his pocket, and continued on his hunt, the racketing noise of the rifle occasioning much of his progress.

But, unknown to him, the sound of the shots reached the distant ears of Wildlife Officer Joe Atkins. And Joe immediately took up the trail.

Moving quickly, but stealthily, Mister Joe slipped down into the swamps and, with his detailed knowledge of the territory, soon approached the area of slaughter.

Meanwhile, the shots had ceased, the illegal hunt was over, and the swamp regained its brooding silence.

But you can’t fire a rifle without leaving evidence behind you. Joe’s trained eyes soon caught the brassy gleam of an empty cartridge. Picking it up, he pocketed it for future reference, and then set about patiently tracking his man down.

At home now, the hunter dropped his illegal game on the table, set the loaded rifle by the door, and went out into the clearing for an armload of firewood. He was almost back to the door with his burden before he
With razor-sharp gigs and blinding headlamps, a task force of sportsmen spearheaded at the Tallahassee Capitol City Rod and Gun Club recently declared open warfare on predatory garfish in Lake Miccosukee on the borders of Leon and Jefferson Counties.

Labelling the moonlight operation as the "Garfish Rodeo," interested parties quickly passed the word that an open season on scale-armored roughfish would be held beginning promptly at 9 p.m. on a certain Monday.

Staging area for the affair was Bowman's Auto Court on the outskirts of Tallahassee where booted sportmen rigged in outdoor clothing began rendezvousing at sundown. By 8 p.m. the area was filled with cars, trucks, trailers and passenger cars. Here and there, the sportmen spent their waiting moments idly filling steel-pronged gig-heads to needle points, while others swiped the usual tales of fish and 'gators and b'ar and dogs, sometimes spinning their stories out to incredible lengths. Still more carefully inspected the fastenings of their boat-trailers to make sure there would be no mishaps on the highway.

When all was deemed in readiness, the long convoy of garfish eradicators got under way on the 25-mile trek to Miccosukee.

Drained and lowered by severe droughts, Lake Miccosukee, at the time of "Garfish Rodeo," was at its lowest level since 1923. Choked and crowded together by the disappearing waters, black bass were rapidly disappearing. Some died for lack of food, water or oxygen, while others, weakened by unfavorable conditions, were being slaughtered by the hardy garfish.

But few clouds come without silver linings, and, although Lake Miccosukee was becoming rapidly unfit for gamefish, it was ideal for garfish control by gigging, since even the unholy gars were easily visible in the shallow waters.

By 9 p.m., all 16 gigging boats had been slid down the muddy shores of Miccosukee and out into the moonlit waters, and the hot war got under way.

Standing patiently poised in the bows of their boats, the giggers gave low-voiced directions to their paddlers, meanwhile turning and twisting their heads so that their bright headlights probed and flicked deep into the murky waters, searching out the enemy - garfish, suckers and mudfish.

Suddenly, in the white shaft of light, a gigger managed to pick out the long deadly shape of a garfish, at first brown and pencil-shaped and then slowly fading out as the fish silently sank down out of light range. "There's one," the gigger shouted, and the still night was shattered by the sound of a heavy gig crashing down into the water. The boat rocked in a spray of water as the first garfish of the night was flipped up into the air and slammed down into the boat.

Then all was quiet again, except for the reedy voices of distant frogs and the muffled comments of other giggers as the golden half-moon rode higher into the sky. The silence was broken by the crack of a paddle on top of the water, and someone said, "He might live after that one, but he's sure got a broken back," and another gar was eradicated.

Elsewhere on Miccosukee, other giggers could be heard waging their relentless war as gar after gar was added to the growing pile in each boat. By 10:30 p.m., the appointed time, all the boats were back at the landing, and the obnoxious roughfish were haggard and muddied as the giggers tossed them into a pile on shore.

Final count on the "Garfish Rodeo" list 40 garfish, 20 suckers and one mudfish (bowfin) brought back, and an untold number that were killed but lost in the dark of the night.

Then it was the State biologists' turn, and they began making their field check of the stomach contents of each fish, finding that out of 23 roughfish, 18 had completely empty stomachs (which some fishermen attributed to the time of night and moon), while two had been feeding on fresh-water shrimp, one had eaten a 6-inch golden shiner, one had been eating sunfish minnows and unidentified fish and one more had devoured a 5-inch bluegill.

A sad note on the state of the Miccosukee gamefish was turned in by the outcast of a 25-inch largemouth black bass which had been found floating motionlessly, belly-up, on the top of the water, dying. This bass, once the king of Miccosukee gamefish, had a diseased heart, was in very poor physical condition, and had a stomach full of clay, which it had evidently eaten to ease the pangs of hunger.

Soon, the giggers began fading away into the darkness, their mission accomplished for the night, and the "Garfish Rodeo" entered into the pages of conservation work being done by independent sportmen and outdoor lovers.

By Don Roberts

GARFISH RODEO

October, 1950
THE CORAL SNAKE

The coral snake is an exception to most of the rules concerning the identification of poisonous snakes in the United States. The moccasins and rattlers are mostly heavy-bodied snakes, with broad head, vertical pupil of the eye, a pit on each side of the head between the eye and the nostril, and long, movable fangs in the mouth; but the coral snake is a small and slender species, with a relatively narrow head, a round pupil like that of most harmless snakes, no facial pit, and with short, permanently erect fangs like stubby rose thorns. Moccasins and rattlers produce living young, but the coral snake lays eggs. The moccasins and rattlesnakes strike out at their prey or at enemies, and inject a poison that breaks down red blood cells and blood vessels; but the coral snake seldom strikes, merely chewing on an offending object, and injecting a venom that attacks the nervous system. As might be guessed from the foregoing remarks, the coral snake is not closely related to moccasins and rattlers; it belongs, instead, to the family that includes the deadly cobras, kraits, mambas, and other tropical species.

By ROSS ALLEN
and
WILFRED T. NEILL

Rosie Allen’s Reptile Instr., Silver Springs

Although the coral snake does not present the sinister outlines of most North American poisonous snakes, it is easily recognized by its unusual color pattern. The coral snake is marked with rings of red, black, and yellow encircling the body along its entire length. The red rings are lacking on the tail, which is marked only with black and yellow; the tip of the snout is black. The scales have a glossy appearance, which, together with the bright markings, make the snake somewhat resemble a colorful necklace.

Common in Florida is another snake ringed with red, yellow, and black, the harmless little scarlet king snake. This species closely resembles the coral snake in superficial aspect, but differs in one important respect: in the dangerous coral snake, the black rings are yellow-bordered, and in the harmless scarlet king snake, the yellow rings are black-bordered! Now this distinction may be very useful when viewing captive specimens in a cage, but in the wild, one might possibly become confused, and forget which form displays which patterns. Reptile collectors may get around this difficulty by remembering a little poem:

Red touch yellow, Kill a fellow;
Red touch black, Good for Jack.

This poem is said to have originated in Okefenokee Swamp, where both the coral snake and its harmless mimic occur.

The coral snake ranges from coastal North Carolina southward to extreme southern Florida, then westward to Texas and northeastern Mexico. Coral snakes from some southern Florida differ slightly from those found elsewhere, and some scientists consider them to represent a separate race. Likewise, western specimens, which average rather dark in coloration, have also been given recognition as a race or geographic variant. However, the differences between these races are very slight, and of no significance in terms of the species. In Central and South America, the coral snake is found in association with other species of coral snake, large and small. All are announced in Florida.

Ross Allen’s Reptile Instr., Silver Springs

The coral snake is found throughout Florida, occurring in every country. It is most often encountered in damp, wooded areas of live-oak, or in long-leaf pine forests, where it lives about rotting logs or beneath leaf-mold. It provides in the open in

(Continued on Page 22)

Youth and Conservation

"As the twig is bent, so is the tree inclined," and as our youths of America are trained today, so will the citizens of tomorrow develop.

That's why the Pensacola Anglers and Hunters Club sponsored their wildlife-winter, growing contest which recently ended with the top award going to Billy Jean Davis, Davidville, for his prize-winning plot of lopedesia bicolor, a recognized winter food and cover crop for quail, dove and other birds. Billy Jean was selected from a field of 22 other contestants who took part in the year-long competition.

Conceived by W. R. Parker, retired naval commander and president of the Pensacola Club, the program was designed to interest more young people in providing food and cover for our birds and wildlife while at the same time stimulating the conservation program for such wildlife.

Parker's original enthusiasm carried over to the Pensacola River Soil Conservation District and the local work-unit technician, Elmer Jones. Sparked by these two men, whose enthusiasm became the heart of the project and its possibilities, the Pensacola Club readily agreed to sponsor the contest in the form of a series of prizes for the best plots of lopedesia bicolor in the Pensacola area.

Every club of young boys in Future Farmers of American and 4-H Clubs in the county was invited to participate in the contest, which was co-sponsored by the Pensacola Club and the Pensacola River Soil Conservation District.

Several of these boys won special recognition by planting the best plots of lopedesia bicolor. Prizes were awarded to the boys whose plots were judged the best in the county.

Meanwhile, the 22 plots of lopedesia bicolor were grown to full size to be used by the year's future Farmers like Billy Jean Davis and Marlin Bartlett, and the Pensacola Club, which is a sponsor of the Pensacola Anglers and Hunters Club.

By GEORGE M. HEARD

15
Kids Have Happy Time at Orange County’s Third Annual Fishathon Staged by Sentinel-Star and Sportsman’s Association.

by Bill Snyder

When the City of Orlando stages its annual day-long fishing party for the youngsters, it’s more fun than a circus for kids and grown-ups alike.

The most recent Fishathon, staged here September 18, attracted nearly 5,000 laddies ranging in age from three months to 13 years, and it can well serve as a pattern to be used by many other cities staging similar events throughout the United States in the years to come.

"It was just as smooth as can be," onespectating official declared with a smile wide after the final prize had been awarded in the fishing event and the last youthful fisherman had departed for home.

His statement is a fairly accurate description of the efficient manner in which the annual affairs have been staged in Orlando since 1948. However, there are some slightly important reasons why the Orlando fishing parties have always been top-notchers.

Fogus, hard-hitting editor of the ORLANDO SENTINEL-STAR is one of the important cogs in the annual affairs. He directs the Contest days, weeks and considerable midnight ad to greasing the machinery necessary to make a kids’ fishing party really slick. He learned the know-how back in 1948 when his newspaper and the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission cooperated in staging the first event.

Fogus’ enthusiasm and tireless work were mainly responsible for the success of the first Fishathon, and, strangely, his enthusiasm proved nearly as contagious as measles—apparently caught the fancy of nearly every businessman in Orlando. They actually organized the opportunity to do their part in giving the youngsters a happy fish.

Candy, soft drinks, and even the ever-present huggable-gum.

People were everywhere. State wildlife officers gave expert assistance in baiting hooks and removing fish. Police and firemen went all out in aiding the youthful fishermen. Pretty Red Cross workers dabbed iodine on punctured fingers and stubbed toes. M. C. Lewis, State Game Commissioner for the Fifth District, was on hand offering help wherever needed. City Editor Fogus saw to it that there wasn’t a single slump in the day’s program for youngsters.

And, all in all, it’s likely that there were more adults, including mothers and fathers, business and professional men, on hand than there were youngsters.

Just like we said, a Fishathon in Orlando is more fun than a circus! Everyone cooperated.

The Orlando high school football squad, under the direction of their coaches, were official drink servers. They peeled the coats from thousands of bottles of soft drinks and delivered them to an army of thirty juveniles in a day-long work that rivaled any swimming squad practice their coach could ever dole out to them on the gridiron at school.

Throughout the joy-pack day literally hundreds of fish were caught by proud little anglers and weighed-in by a corps of weightmasters that donated their services. Even transportation for the children was free, donated by the Orlando Transit Company. Many, many more people, of course, freely gave their time and energy for the city-wide effort.

But the great attraction of the day was the smiling faces of the thousands of youngsters gathered around the banks of Lake Eola. In their joyous faces was found all the emotion that the adult helpers needed. Fishathons are something that everyone just naturally enjoys.

So Orlando’s Third Annual Fishathon, sponsored by the Orlando SENTINEL-STAR and the Orange County Sportsman’s Association, finally ended, leaving little doubt in anyone’s mind of one fact: When Orlando stages its Fourth Annual Fishathon next year, it will surely be much more fun than any circus ever thought of being. For this is one big, free show in which everyone can be a performer, from kids to grand-daddies. Fishathons are just naturally fun for everyone.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

By S. McFarland

* * *

FLORIDA WILDLIFE
Christmas edition will be a Shopper’s Guide for Outdoor Lovers.

* If you plan to buy a present for any outdoorsman from Grandpa to Great Uncle, let us run to watch for your December issue of FLORIDA WILDLIFE. It will contain items of interest to every fisherman, hunter, and outdoorsman.

* Christmas advertising of sports and equipment will be received by November 15.

For Information Write: THE EDITOR Florida Wildlife Tallahassee, Florida

THE UNIVERSAL ‘Jeffre

Mr. Winston O’Neal, furniture dealer of Tampa, Florida, an outstanding sportsman, who has hunted in Canada, Central America, and some of the toughest parts of the Everglades, says, "To my way of thinking, what makes hunting a real pleasure is when you can count on a ‘JEEP’ to penetrate the wilds out country and bring you back without any trouble and with plenty of game."

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

October, 1950
Fingerlings Stocked In Washington County

CHIFLEY—Five ponds and Holmes Creek were stocked with new supplies of game fish by conservationists in one of the largest restocking operations recently carried out in Washington County. State Senator Olin G. Stover, working in cooperation with Chief J. Hicks and W. E. Daniel, Third District wildlife officers, was responsible for the work.

The waters restocked were Gully Pond, Cowan Pond, Black Pond, Hicks Pond and Pole Pond, which received about 10,000 young fish. About 20,000 fingerlings were placed in Holmes Creek. All of the fish were delivered from the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission's hatchery at Hobbs.

Annual Bear Hunts Stated October 5th In National Forests

TALLAHASSEE—Four-day bear hunts beginning October 5 and 10 will be advertised in the Cramton and Josephine National Forests this year, Coleman Newman, State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission director, said yesterday. Permits for bear hunting will be issued only to organized parties having not less than five men members, although no one man designated as chief to represent the party to the bear hunting permit. Hunts will be supervised by wildlife officers and district forest officers.

A deposit of $50 to cover a permit may precede each party, each application, which should be mailed to Wildlife Officer C. E. Nord, 61 E. Fountain St., Lake City, for the Cramton, and to Assistant Chief Wildlife Officer Walter Larkins, Bristol, for the Apalachicola district. Deposits may be refunded to those parties unsuccessful in drawing a hunt, Newman stated.

Each hunt application should indicate the party's choice of hunting dates, also showing three alternate dates, and must list the names and addresses of all members. In case of conflict, the final choice of hunting dates will be settled by lot on September 30. Only those parties who have put in a deposit will be eligible.

Official hunting dates have been set as follows: Osceola Wildlife Management Area, October 1-5, October 15-19; Cuyahoga National Forest, October 1-19; Hunt 3, October 19-21; Hunt 4, October 26-28; Apalachicola Wildlife Management Area, October 1-5, October 15-19; Hunt 3, October 17-20; Hunt 3, October 24-27; Hunt 4, October 31 in November.

The controlled hunts are jointly staged by the U. S. Forest Service and the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Kelly Says Resources Basis National Wealth

MILTON—Our national resources are the basis of our power and wealth, Claude Kelly, president of the National Wildlife Federation, told members of the Santa Fe Conservation Club yesterday. Kelly added that "we will remain rich and strong only as long as the supply of our natural resources extend.

He urged sportmen and the general public to listen to trained biologists and conservationists since "they are the only ones who can give us answers to the grave problems now facing the American public." With Kelly were Edwin Tyson, State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission biologist; and S. D. Needham, vice-president of the Florida Wildlife Federation.
Joan Thomson, St. Petersburg designer, uses original patterns. Handwork by experienced craftsmen are feature of exclusive designs.
CORAL SNAKE

Continued from Page 151

the early morning and at dusk, and sometimes at night or on cloudy days. Nosing about through decaying logs or bunks, it catches many snakes, which comprise the bulk of its food. It also eats lizards, and may occasionally capture a frog if even a minnow that has been stranded in shallow water. The coral snake is an egglaying species. The whitish, soft-shelled eggs, usually less than a half-dozen in number, are deposited in rotting logs or debris. They require from 2 to 3 months to hatch, and the newly-emerged young, 7 to 8 inches in length, resemble the parents but are paler in color. Little is known of the growth rate of this species. Most coral snakes are less than 3 feet in length, but specimens ranging from 38 to 42 inches in length are occasionally discovered. The largest coral snake examined by the authors, and indeed the largest one ever reported to the United States, measured 47 inches from snout to tip of tail.

The coral snake is gentle in disposition and seldom attempts to bite, unless restrained, stepped on, or hurt. There are no instances in which coral snakes have submitted to handling by people who took them to be some harmless species. They are unpredictable, however, and may bite without warning if the venom produces cramps, nausea, dizziness, shortness of breath, and also some pain and swelling, all though less than in the case of moccasin and rattlesnake. The exact mortality rate from such bites is unknown. Some authorities have claimed that 80% of the people bitten by coral snakes die within a few days; other authorities would put the figure at 50%. The present authors, on the basis of studies of recent coral snake bites in Florida, are inclined to put it lower still, perhaps 20%. Some of the recoveries are doubtful due to the fact that the coral snake's tiny fangs often have difficulty in penetrating the skin, and the snake does not discharge its full load of venom before the victim has a chance to react. From the standpoint of venom alone, the coral snake must rank as one of the most deadly snakes in the United States. As such, it is one of the most secretive habits and docile temperament, it is seldom to deform to man.
CONSERVATION LOSES FRIEND

School in 1931, Hirram Bryant was always interested in sports and athletics, and it was while he was doing just this that he suffered a crippling arthritis attack. By 1932 he was completely paralyzed, and finally partially recovered and began studying law.

By 1940, he was moving around expertly on crutches, or on crutches to the county for the office of the Justice of the Peace, which he won. In 1941 he was elected County Judge by popular vote and was serving on the Lee County Court House steps when making his speeches.

During World War II, when Lee County juvenile delinquency hit an all-time high, Judge Bryant turned his office into a refuge for the "small fry" with their troubles. By day he handled the business of his office, and by night he showed moving pictures, taught boxing and other sports, and sympathized with the boys who flopped together under his leadership.

On February 15, 1945, his dream of a boys' club materialized, and in the following years many similar youth organizations sprang up in neighboring communities under his guiding hand.

Never shocked by the loss of a friend who, in 30 years, has accomplished so much with so little, a group of public-spirited Lee County citizens have been planning a memorial in the courthouse in the form of a modern boy's club building.

On his way home after organizing the Buckingham Boys Club, County Judge Hirram Bryant, well-known jurist, conservationist and youth leader in Lee County, was struck down and killed by an automobile on August 22, 1950.

Tommy Lines Passes

Injuries sustained several days earlier when his automobile overturned while responding from official business in Jacksonville.

Lines was well known by sportmen and conservationists throughout the state. He served as a wildlife officer for the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission from December 1937 to 1945. At that time he assumed his duties of game agent with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He was given a leave of absence to serve with the U. S. Marine Corps. Upon his release from the Marine Corps, he returned to his duties with the Fish and Wildlife Service and remained in that capacity until his death.

Agent Lines was born in Quincy and is succeeded by his wife, two small children of Tallahassee; his mother, Mrs. Sally Lines, two brothers, G. R. Lines and W. D. Lines, and a sister, W. D. McMillan, and two children by a former marriage—all of Quincy.

Funeral services were conducted at Quincy. Thomas M. Lines, 37, Florida game agent representing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, died at a Tallahassee hospital Sunday, September 24. His death resulted from

LIVES BAIT FOR SALE

Thomas M. Lines, 37, Florida game agent representing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, died at a Tallahassee hospital Sunday, September 24. His death resulted from

ON YOUR MARKS—GET SET—GO

ON YOUR MARKS—GET SET—GO
You have questions concerning hunting, fishing, camping, guns, or ammunition, address them to PROFESSOR SNAETT, FLORIDA WILDLIFE, TALLAHASSEE. He’ll do the rest.

Q. Fishermen always argue you and con regarding waves from high-speed outboard motors and speed balls. Believe there’s much less disturbance from this going 50-30 m.p.h. because only foot of motor and small portion of boat touches water. When you cut speed to 5-10 m.p.h., the boat bobs down, creating waves big enough to wash nearby boat-fishermen into the trences, and disturb their fishing for several minutes. When I run past at top speed, I’m only trying to get out of their way with the least amount of disturbance. Will you tell me if I’m right or wrong in this?

A. Yes and no. It all depends on size and type of your boat and motor, distance between the two boats, and the type of water you are crossing. Some high-speed boats are so constructed that they leave a large wave at slow speeds and cannot be properly maneuvered. Medium-sized boats can be operated at both slow and fairly fast speeds. On the other hand, if you’re running through a slim channel bordered by land or islands, waves from many high-speed boats will rebound from side to side and wash with near-by boats from the normal. In open water, of course, the resulting disturbance is much less. However, Pilots rules for waterways state that powered boats must give way to unpowered boats such as sailboats, and, by extension, drifting or anchored boats. In other words, unpowered boats always have the right of way over any powered boat. In addition, it’s the common rule of the waterway that powered boats will slow down when passing a rowboat or small boat to avoid throwing a standing person into the water by unexpectedly rocking him. This relates collision danger to a minimum, and gives you time to avoid cutting his fishing line, or snaring it around your propeller, and gives him time to get his plug or float out of your way. Any one who has ever seen a high-powered boat crash into an anchored one will always slow down to a safe speed when passing an unpowered boat—by which I mean a sailboat, rowboat, down motorboat or an anchored boat.

Q. Are the following rumors fact or fancy?
1. It is against the law in Florida to run your bird dogs in the woods other than during seventh of October and during the quail season. 2. Quail have no discernible scent during the mating period. 3. A cover of quail crotched all over will produce more young than a cover that is not shot into at all. A. B. Runyon.

A. 1. Wildlife Code of State of Florida: Rule 16.02, "Training Dogs—Restrictions. Bird dogs may be trained during the period between October 1 and November 21, in open territory with the aid of a pistol firing a blank or solid ball. Use of shotguns or gill for training dogs is prohibited." Rule 16. Person may take quail and game animals during the open season thereon with the aid of a dog." 2. Biologists state that, so far as known, quail scent does not ever vary. 3. Faber.

Q. What is an invertebrate? B. S. Tallahassee.

A. Any animal without a backbone.

Q. Is a speckled perch and a crappie the same thing in Florida?—J. L. Orlando.

A. Certainly.
"Mister Joe" (Continued from Page 27)

as they are now. The entire country was deep in the throes of its worst depression, and men were starving on the streets of the cities.

When the Commission, they claimed as the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish ran out of money and went $80,000 into debt, and had to borrow finances to operate on. Joe Atkins still had faith in his work and much faith, indeed, that he kept on working for many months without any salary, paying all of his expenses out of his own pocket. He became because he believed then, as he believes now, that conservation work in Florida is the most interesting and valuable career that a man could possibly have.

And take a lesson from this—in those days the 40 game wardens (as they were then known) were expected to furnish all their own equipment, including transportation, and they drew a flat $75 per month salary, with no expenses allowed.

Through it all, Mister Joe commanded the respect of all who met him, and was many a new friend over to the work he was performing. Now what else would a man need to become tops in his chosen profession? Merciful justice, perhaps? Can a law enforcement officer be both merciful and just at the same time?

Well, as Joe says, "I don't want to be hard on anyone just because I can do it." By that, he means that he has always tried to temper his arrests with his own special brand of mercy.

In the case of the suffering woman, who carried a squirming baby in her arms, Joe said, "Lady, I'm really sorry, but you were fishing illegally, without a license, and I'll have to take you in. But, if your story is true, I'll gladly pay your fine for you." Later, finding upon investigation that the sobbing lady actually did need food for her family, Joe Atkins, out of his own finances, sent her a sack of rice and other staples of food. Is that being both just and good?

Another time, Mister Joe arrested two boys for fishing without a license.
NOW THEY ARE GONE

(Continued from Page 7)
came. They tried again the next year, and the next. For ten years, they kept their boat afloat again and again that dam as they strove vainly to reach their only spawning grounds. No work was completed. The deed was done. The salmon of the Connecticut River were exterminated. Though they were wiped out that when, in 1872, a solitary sal-
mon was observed to sandhill crane, the vision of this fish out of danger, the men- who did not know what it was. So the
once so prolific Atlantic salmon disappeared into the dusty pages of history. Not only on the Connecticut River was it repeated. No, but throughout New England the story of the bloody
fish was played. Streams were pol-
ished, rivers were contaminated. The
never heard of, and slowly the Atlantic salmon passed away. Now they are found abundantly only in Maine and Canada. Once they swarmed like a silver
stream, now they are gone.

Lee Bailey's New Fish Camp
CABIN • BOATS • BAIT AND TACKLE
Highway 71
12 Mile South of Houghton, Michigan
BOOTH'S FERRY
CHIPOLA RIVER
MODERN ROOMS
PRIVATE BATHS
Reservations Requested
SPECIAL RATES
Step 41
SATSUМА HOTEL
"DINE ON FINE FOODS"
Dining Room
Houghton Lake - MI
We specialize in fresh fish from the Lake. We serve you the best fish, fresh off the lake. Visit us for a delicious meal and a great time.

"GOING FISHING!"
OTIS DAVIS SERVICE STATION
Bait, Tackle, and License
RESORT AREA
Houghton Lake, MI

VAUGHAN'S SPORITING GOODS
17 & 19 Broad St.
Thomsonville, Ga.
ANY KIND OF GUN OR AMMUNITION
REGULAR AND BARGAIN
PHONE 504

MAUDE'S SNACK SHOP
On Highway 93
Aurora, Arkansas
Some of the Jolliest Arkansas Oysters and Steaks
We Sell Fishing Licenses For Your Convenience

BOATS AND PADDOCKS
Houghton Lake, Michigan
WholeSALE AND REtAIL
STRAWN VARIETY SHOP
PROVIDES A BRIDGE TO THE Future
BLOUNTSTOWN, FLORIDA

THE DISAPPEARING PANThER
(Continued from Page 9)
ter that was caught in a trap by one from front. The dog rushed in and
set the panther by the throat and was killed by a lightning-stroke of the free fore-
paw.
The only place in Florida where panthers are still present in sufficient numbers to be of the tunity for successful hunting is the Everglades. Even there they are be-
coming so scarce that no one is neces-
sary to place severe restrictions on their hunting so they may once again arrive to their rightful place of freedom among the wildlife of Florida.

Joseph C. Moore, Everglades Na-
tional Park Naturalist, and other ex-
perienced woodsmen, concur in the author's estimates. A panther is cer-
nably not more than 20 panthers re-
main in the Everglades.

Panthers are generally born in Feb-
uary in the Everglades, after a ges-
tation period of approximately 56 days. Young panthers weigh from 25 to
30 pounds at birth. Their development is not unlike that of domestic cats. They seem their first month of eight or nine days and are able to move around freely and to catch small animals. Normally they must be nursed for only four or five weeks, but may remain with their mothers until six months of age or older if permitted to do so by the mother.

Panthers are known to be skilled hunters, and they are adept at climbing trees to escape from their predators. They are also known to be solitary animals, usually living alone or in pairs, except during the breeding season when they may form temporary social groups. Panthers are highly adaptable and can be found in a variety of habitats, from wetlands to forests and grasslands. They are excellent swimmers and can swim up to 30 miles per hour. Panthers are also known for their stealthy movements and quick, powerful leaps. They are a highly sought-after trophy for big game hunters in Florida, and they present a challenge to hunters due to their elusive nature and ability to disappear quickly. As a result, they are protected under the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, and it is illegal to hunt them, even for sport, without a special permit. As a result, the number of panthers in Florida has increased, and they are now considered a resilient species. However, their population is still small and vulnerable to human activities such as habitat loss, hunting, and poaching. It is important to continue to protect and conserve the habitats of the panther, and to educate the public about the importance of conserving this species for future generations.
The Disappearing Panther

From Page 31

maturity. As with most cats, however, their disposition is uncertain. We are always on the lookout for some revealing recommendation as a pet, except for someone who thoroughly understands the animal and is willing to take the chance of serious injury. One is inclined to doubt this statement when, after observing Leaster Piper playing with a cage full of grown panthers at Bonita, he tells us that the tabby is a very valuable and highly prized pet.

The fact remains that the panther is a powerful animal easily capable of killing or injuring a human being.

PANTHERS were at one time well distributed throughout Florida. At present they are confined largely to the Everglades region, although occasional individuals are reported from other parts of the state. For example, during the 1945-50 hunting season, there was an authentic report of a panther being killed in Western Taylor County. The panther is capable of, and habitually makes long journeys, and it is possible that these isolated occurrences result from panthers wandering from their usual haunts.

Undoubtedly many of you readers have seen or heard panthers in Florida, or at least have seen their tracks. Quite likely these encounters with the panther have remained as highlights of your experience and adventure. Would you not be interested in knowing whether some other people might have had the same experience? This is where the sport comes in—let's start a campaign to learn as much as possible about these elusive animals that we have never seen.

Debit Credit

Cash with State Treasurer $282,638.53
Debursments:
Salaries $104,127.98
$68,397.33

Debit

Credit

Sales of Licenses $177,134.75
Commercial $29,249.80
Court Costs Collected
1,090.00
Collections for 1949-1950 $327.50
Licenses
$328.50
Sales of Magazine Advertising $105.00
$105.00
Sales of Magazine Subscriptions $212.75
$212.75
Other Sources $2,139.00
$2,139.00

Accounts Payable:
County Judges (overpayments) $36.03
Cancel Warrants $152.74
Henry County Deer Fund $4,357.03
Unencumbered Balance $455,663.64
$455,663.64

This is the spot Carson mentioned all right. Follow the road until you come to a fork in the road."

FISCAL REPORT

GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

AUGUST 31, 1950

Debit Credit

Cash with State Treasurer $282,638.53
Debursments:
Salaries $104,127.98
$68,397.33

Debit

Credit

Sales of Licenses $177,134.75
Commercial $29,249.80
Court Costs Collected
1,090.00
Collections for 1949-1950 $327.50
Licenses
$328.50
Sales of Magazine Advertising $105.00
$105.00
Sales of Magazine Subscriptions $212.75
$212.75
Other Sources $2,139.00
$2,139.00

Accounts Payable:
County Judges (overpayments) $36.03
Cancel Warrants $152.74
Henry County Deer Fund $4,357.03
Unencumbered Balance $455,663.64
$455,663.64

STICKS AND STONES

(Continued from Page 3)

GOLDFISH

Debit Credit

Dear Sir:

In Professor Smiley's article in the August issue of FLORIDA WILDLIFE there appears a question from V. S. N. of Orlando, asking what to do if he has two goldfish in his live bait. I would like to point out that one of the golden rules of fishing is to use live bait, especially goldfish, for catching fish. The use of goldfish for bait is not only inadvisable, but it is also illegal for the protection of the carp family, but in that state the use of goldfish for bait is illegal under provisions of the Florida Fish and Game laws.

This same issue carries an article stating, "There will be no chance for the bucking season this fall," and states that the bucking season will be in early December. It is true, but it is also true that Section 955.04 Florida Fish and Game 1941 states that it is illegal to discharge firearms either by hunting or sport shooting on Sunday. It is also true that Section 955.04, Florida Fish and Game 1941 states that it is illegal to discharge firearms on a Sunday except for the purpose of protecting the boating season.

I believe that if FLORIDA WILDLIFE made some mention of this type of problem it might be removed from the Florida Statutes.

DAVID O. MELOWY
University of Florida Gainesville

HENNIE BLAZES

Dear Sir:

Bob Dahne's article "Henne Blazes" in August issue of FLORIDA WILDLIFE should show what any farmer's apprentice can do. I have fished this territory for 35 years but for the past two years have neglected Helen Blazes fishing because my friends are frequenting the big ones in salt water.

Bob could not have painted a better picture of the conditions that have developed. He has sold me over again, and I can't wait to get back to the floating islands. There, I have not only many beautiful fish, but the area is alive with ducks and snow geese. The land is beautiful, and I am sure that you will get many annotations of this beautiful wildlife area.

GARLAND W. SPENCER
Stafford

IT'S EASIER

Dear Sir:

Don't mail my old copies of FLORIDA WILDLIFE to my brother in Kenmore, New York, he always lets me know in a hurry. So please send me back my check for $1 for which I wish to begin sending my brother a year's subscription to FLORIDA WILDLIFE.

C. J. BERKER
Clearwater Beach

ALLEN CORSON

Dear Sir:

I am writing about your subscription for your highly recommended magazine, FLORIDA WILDLIFE. Highly recommended, that is, if the Allens agree. This is the last time I will recommend FLORIDA WILDLIFE, if the subscription is discontinued.

DFPENNIN

Pennin, Illinois

GATEWAY FISHING CAMP

" FOR SALE"

An ideal marketing space for those having outdoor sports equipment. A fine setting for a fishing resort. FLORIDA WILDLIFE is entirely interested in the development of the Gateway Fishing Camp. Interested parties please contact Advertising Dept., Florida Wildlfe, Tallahassee, Fla., for arrangements, space and other information.

GATEWAY FISHING CAMP

October 30, 1950

Please mention FLORIDA WILDLIFE when answering ads.

"Ezra's"

GOOD FOOD

464 Central Ave.
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

"The Best in Quality Food"

EXCELLENT SERVICE AND
SERVING ARRANGEMENTS
AIR CONDITIONED

ATTENTION!
HUNTERS and
FISHERMEN

We are Distributors for the Following:

SAGE SHOTGUNS AND RIFLES
COLT PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS
HEAD HUNTING AND TACKLE
COMPLETE LINE OF FISHING
TACKLE—ALL MAKES

Spicola Hardware Co.
1907 East Broadway
TAMPA, FLA.

JOHNSON OUTBOARD MOTORS

SALES AND SERVICE

ACCESSORIES

THE FISHING FAVORITE!

These fishing horns and various lines are for sale. Any dealer interested please write.

HUNTERS and FISHERMEN

Best buy in hunting and fishing so far this year.

RUNYAN MACHINE AND BOAT WORKS

500 South Peale Street
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

PLEASE MENTION FLORIDA WILDLIFE WHEN ANSWERING ADS.
Two Receive Fines For Selling Bass

Engaged in illegally possessing and selling fresh-water fish, Aleczer and Edward Thompson, of Lake Jackson, were recently apprehended by Rhoda T. Hill, assistant chief wildlife officer, on charges of selling 27 largemouth bass which has totaling 50 pounds, valued at $115.00.

Both Aleczer, who possessed 12 of the bass, and Edward, who had 15 bass, were fined $25 for possessing over the legal bag limit and $50 for selling fresh-water fish by Leon County Judge Ceyryan, it was stated.

New Bird-dog Owners Association Formed In Southern Florida

MIAMI SPRINGS - Organization of the Everglades Field Trial Association was recently effected, according to S. F. Murphy, president.

Primary purpose of the association, present members of which owns a total of 200 registered bird-dogs, is to improve the breed of setters and pointers, particularly by holding field trials to test qualities of competing dogs.

Secondary purposes are the promotion of good fellowship among sportmen, a greater emphasis on the use of dog management, and an increase in interest in the conservation and propagation of game birds. Members are also interested in the enforcement of game laws.

Beginning October 4, meetings are to be held Friday Wednesdays, and South Florida field trials will be scheduled in the future.

Officers elected include S. F. Murphy, president; Fred Kaiser, first vice-president; Pete Conrad, second vice-president; John B. Moore, third vice-president; Milton Hunsinger, secretary; and George Keen, treasurer.

Members elected to the board of governors include Roy Fairchild, Paul Benjamin, Charles Burton, Bob Conrad, A. F. Reeder, Bob Keen, and Dr. Tarborgh.

Other members mentioned include Ed Kendrick, Jack Kilpatrick, Joe Barock, James Shepherd, Frank Tipton, James Mason, L. D. Wingo, Dick Wolin, George Belden, G. M. Bailey, V. B. Voce Babcock and R. H. Hammond.

Migratory Bird Laws Set for New 1950-51 Hunting Seasons

Migratory bird regulations for Florida will be in effect for the 1950-51 hunting season as they were last year, Director of Colman Newman, State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, disclosed today.

Regulations released to Newman by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service through Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman are as follows:

Open season on ducks, goose and coot extends from January 27 to July 5, hunting permitted from one half hour before sunset to one hour before sunrise, except on opening day, when shooting will begin at 12:00 noon. Daily bag limit on ducks was set at four, with the bag limit including one wood duck only. Possession limit is eight. Daily bag and possession limit on geese was set at two, including one Canada goose or two white-fronted goose, and in addition three blue goose. Daily bag and possession limit for coot was set at 15. Hunting season for marsh hens and galli

Wildlife Federation Holds Annual Meeting At Welaka Lodge

WELAKA - Sportsman's Lodge will be host to numerous resident and visiting sports-men October 30-32 when the Florida Wildlife Federation holds its annual convention with Lincoln J. Jacobs, general chairman, presiding.

Entertainment will be built around the Convention Ball, during which the 1951 Florida Wildlife Queen will be crowned, and will be preceded by the customary sports-women's luncheon and outdoor fashion show, according to Chairman Jacobs. At the same time, the men will be participating in the sportmen's "Best Licks" get-together to see who spins the tallest tale.

For anglers, there will be a skiff tournament arranged by A. D. Bacley, Fourth District vice president of the Federation. Others, who prefer actual fishing, will be able to fish the waters in front of Sportsman's Lodge. Over 50 boats and guides by reservation will be on hand to serve the fishermen.

A special event will be held for hunt through the wooded section surrounding the lodge, and will be under the guidance of Capt. C. D. Blount, former president of the State Fox Hunters' Association.

Annual prizes for various chowder in conservation will be presented at an appropriate moment during the regular meeting, the first session of which will be held October 21 with Clayton C. Grimes, acting president, presiding. The program will feature nationally known speakers from various national organizations, including

Riviera Beach Anglers Elect

RIVIERA BEACH - Robert Underhill was recently elected chairman of the Riviera Beach Fishing Club, succeeding Robert Campbell in the position.

Other officers elected included Ed Buckow and Frank Ardin, first and second vice-president, Mrs. Opal White, financial secretary; Mrs. Antonette Underhill, recording secretary, and Howard Hartung, treasurer. Nominated to serve on the board of directors were Capt. Ken Black, Capt. Bert Mell, William F. Layton and Will H. Hughes.

Prize Fishing Tournament

The 1st Annual Prize Fishing Tournament sponsored by the Lake Park and Gulf Fishing Club, with Mrs. W. E. Cleary, was held October 23.

Seven Seas Restaurant

Visit LITTLEFIELD FISHING CAMP

FERNANDINA - FLORIDA

On the Beautiful St. Johns River

7 MILES SOUTH OF PALATKA - ON HIGHWAY 17

PHONE 461-71

CARNES • BOATS • BAIT • MOTORS • GUIDES

KINARD'S FISHING CAMP

On the Beautiful St. Johns River

P. O. BOX 1634, PALATKA, FLORIDA
Sportsmen's Project For Quail Raising In Palm Beach County

WEST PALM BEACH—Members of the Palm Beach County Sportsmen's Club have a full-fledged quail-raising project underway from which they are obtaining excellent results, according to John C. Thomsen, president. Club members have been spending their Sunday mornings and Sundays erecting frames and concrete laying and tending pens at the Club's hatcheries on Military Trail. A merit bowling donation drive is also in progress in order to support the various projects designed to improve and develop the quail stock in the area.

Club members in West Palm Beach, Delray Beach, Jupiter and other Palm Beach coastal areas have been trapping quail and later fattening them up in holding pens in the west.

In addition to that, young quail have been obtained from the State Game and Fish Wall, as these have been purchased from private sources. A total of 1,000 young birds plus 100 pairs of laying quail are presently being kept by C. F. Hays, vice president, who plans to release them at the proper time.

Using Texas and Carolina quail to cross with their native stock in the hatcheries, the club keeps an accurate pen-count on all the quail pens and is presently gaining about 300 quail a week from the 100 hens.

The club also confers regularly with other quail sportsmen's clubs, such as the Broward County Rod and Gun Club, Carl L. Mayhue, president, in order to keep them informed of the latest developments in outdoor sports.

Prospective advertisers for FLORIDA WILDLIFE magazine are advised that unauthorised persons have been reported as fraudulently soliciting and selling advertising for FLORIDA WILDLIFE.

Potentially advertisers are therefore warned that unless the person visiting them claims to be a representative of the Florida Department of Sport, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and has a valid license, they should not accept any advertising.

Before discussing FLORIDA WILDLIFE advertising with any salesman, you will find that they are all pensioned, and that all of their credentials are in proper order.

JESSE COOKS
SEA FOOD GRILL
SEAFOOD FOR EVERY TASTE

* TARPON DOCK *

Phone 9235
221 East Beach Drive,
PANAMA CITY, FLA.

ARMS

HUBER
SPORT FISHING CAMP
PONTIAC, FLORIDA

* The St. Johns River *

HAROLD HUBER
STANLEY HUBER

FISHERMEN'S HEADQUARTERS
"We have warrants that really work"*

Women shipped 8,700 salmon
F.O.S.
NALLS HARDWARE
LUTZ, FLORIDA

LAKE IAMONIA LODGE
P.O. Box 303
FLORIDA'S BEST
FISHING & DUCK HUNTING
Boats - Motors - Bait - Tackle - Guides
25 Miles South Thomasville, Ga.
30 Miles North Tallahassee, Fla.

ANGLER'S PARADISE
Fishing Tackle at All Kinds
PARTS & REPAIRS
Fishing Licenses for Sale
318 W. CRAWFORD ST., FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA
PHONE 604 - A. W. Roberts, Owner

BROWNSVILLE TACKLE SHOP
FISHING LICENSES - FISHING TACKLE
REEL PARTS AND REPAIRS
914 North "O" Street, Pensacola, Fla.

CHAVIS-GILMORE COMPANY
Buy Your Fishing License Here and Make This Your Headquarters for Your SPORTING GOODS
41 E. Wright Street
Phone 846-199
Pensacola, Fla.

SKIPPER'S FISHING TACKLE
Exclusive Dealer in Everything for the Angler
407 East Wright Street
WHOLESALE and REPAIR
Phone 361-5087,
PENSACOLA, FLA.

Whitehead Top-notch Magazine Salesman For Florida Wildlife

Top-ranking FLORIDA WILDLIFE subscription salesman to date in Walton County is Frank Whitehead, assistant chief wildlife officer for the First District, who sold a total of 585 subscriptions to local organizations in the elapsed time of three and a half days.

Whitehead, who sold 308 magazines before, used several psychological approaches in being up against his phenomenal record. Operating on the basis that everyone likes to be liked, Whitehead first set up a block-subscription scheme whereby he added subscriptions to local organisations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys Clubs, Hospital and Old Men's Home to public-spirited businesses and concerns. When they learned that they would be donating subscriptions to children, invalids and others who were not able to particpate in the刺激d activities, the sponsoring concerns were only too happy to purchase blocks of 10 subscriptions for the worthy cause.

Then Whitehead beat his foot on the name of a fish, and went to work on one and all, using another psychological approach. This time he carried a ledger book in which he kept track of the exact number of subscriptions from him, so that those who were interested knew that the quail friends and acquaintances who had already taken subscriptions.

Whitehead's selling point was that FLORIDA WILDLIFE would acquaint the prospect with the game and fish of Florida which really belonged to him. He also emphasized the point that he was the type that liked to subscribe for friends and relatives.

BOISUM'S WILDFLOWERS

dogs


WEARING APPAREL
COOKBURY CLOTHING CO. — Everything for the Man and Boy, city and country, local community and need special levels of faits, at regular prices. You can buy a high, or guaranteed short, high-quality, lower prices. Advertising your needs in the Wildlife Trading Post? Reasonable rates.

COFFEE COFFEE COFFEE
COTTAGES
BRAND'S COTTAGES, with a park, Lake Tarpon, Good fishing, Good eating, Phone 334, Tarpon Springs.

GUNS — AMMUNITION
Excellent shape, 30-06 Army rifle made in sportswear with 2-barrel scope. $69.00 — L. A. Ramsey, Bushnell, Fla.

FOOD SUPPLIES
DIXIE LILY MILLING CO. — West Florida, Chipley, Florida. Wheat, Flour, Grits, Rice, Sourdough Beans and Peas, the famous Specialty Yellow Rice Dinner.

FISH BAIT
EARTHWORMS, domesticated hybrids for soil building, fish bait or propagation. Ask for literature and prices. Williams Hatchery, 1121 N.W. 51st St., Miami 37, Fla.

RESTAURANTS
ROBERT ARNOLD'S RESTAURANT, 4450 14th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is a delightful spot.

LUXURY BAKERY, 4121 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida.

TAXIDERMY
HI-GRADS TAXIDERMY, most modern process. Guaranteed satisfaction. Your $25 will cover all. FLORIDA WILD ANIMAL RANCH, 4th Street N. at 45th Ave., St. Petersburg, Florida.

OCTOBER, 1950

Please mention Florida Wildlife when answering ads.
Florida's Fishing Problems

If Florida is a magic place with a magic name that automatically makes millions of citizens think of a beautiful sub-tropical climate, wonderful ocean beaches, rich citrus crops, and incomparable fishing.

Really, Florida and fishing are as Damon and Pythias, or ham and eggs. Over the length and breadth of the state may be found countless lakes and streams, lordly rivers and thousands of miles of unmatched coastlines, bays and inlets. Everywhere, the urge to go fishing in salt or fresh waters can be fulfilled within a matter of minutes, for at every turn of the road another lake or river comes into view, and another peaceful spot on the shoreline invites the angler to drop in on a fishing line.

Right here is where the members of the Florida Outdoor Writers Association enter the picture for this association of newspaper, magazine and radio writers and commentators has an unlimited opportunity to exercise that precious American heritage — freedom of speech. The individual members speak freely and fully about the thing that they love—the outdoors—and they try their best to do so in a fitting manner that will extoll rather than abuse the virtues of this State.

At times, we are bound to make mistakes, for the one who never makes a mistake is the one who never accomplishes anything. But, if in making our mistakes we are intelligent enough to profit from the experience, we have gained something.

Over in the little section of Florida, I like to go all out in trying to interest boys and girls, and mothers, in the benefits to be obtained by participating in the great health-giving sports such as fishing and hunting. I use a tag-line on my evening radio programs: "It is so much better to go fishing with your son than to go hunting for him," and it has brought me innumerable letters and cards which tell how much this statement means to so many people.

Another subject in my daily columns deals with the industrial and municipal water pollution. In my mind, this condition, so prevalent throughout Florida, is, without doubt, the most serious problem we have relating to better fishing in this State. Only by continued hammering away at this subject will we ever correct this scourge of polluted waters. Here again is where F. O. W. A. members play an important part by informing and educating the public as to what is needed.

Then there is the red-hot question of commercial fishing in our fresh waters; a question having many angles, and many of the outdoor writers differ widely on this subject. It is needless to attempt to say much about this problem here, but I do think this would be an opportune time to state my thoughts about the Florida State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

In my humble opinion, the Commission has accomplished so much good for the sportsmen of Florida that any mistakes are comparatively small. As stated in the first part of this article, the lad who never makes a mistake is the lad who is not doing anything. Reams of news releases have told of how the Commission is riddled through and through with politics, but I, for one, do not believe this is true.

However, I do believe that politics are being foisted into the setup, but not by members of the Commission. It appears at this time that certain interests will again try in some manner to gain a truly strong foothold in Commission affairs at the next session of the Florida State Legislature.

1. Let us all hope that this will not come about, and right here, again, is where the boys and girls of F. O. W. A. can throw the light of day on the whole mess—IF and when it does crop out again.

Thanks much for the use of this corner for my thoughts, and more power to this fine magazine.

-Jim Murphy

Outdoor Columnist
JACKSONVILLE JOURNAL

Sportman-Notice

Both Sire and Dam are NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

ARIEL—Triple National Champion—Winners
AMAZON VILLAGE-GIRL—National Champion—Winners

ARIEL ACE
PRODUCED 19 WINNERS — 90 WINS

ARIEL ACE is a splendidly bred individual from two National Champions, who has demonstrated convincingly his ability to produce puppies with class — speed — bird sense — brain and ability.

ARIEL ACE has produced 10 winners with 30 wins.

ARIEL ACE is an extraordinary prospect sire and breeders are urged to give careful consideration to this opportunity to use his service.

ARIEL ACE is a supreme bird dog himself as well as a field trial producer.

We will have for sale after October 15, several finished shooting dogs and puppies. Both shooting dogs and puppies are from the best lines in the United States and England. If you want bird sense, power, personality, class and ability you have to have BLOOD LINES. Ariel Ace has the top blood lines in America today.

RETURN SERVICE IF YOUR BITCH FAILS TO WHELP—ALL CORRESPONDENCE ANSWERED

ADDRESS ALL INQUIRIES TO—

R. E. FAIRCLOTH

STUD FEES $25.00 — Payable at Time of Service

567 HUNTING LODGE DR.  PHONE 88-3000

MIA MI SPRINGS, FLA.
It's a fact. Months were spent on research and fish-testing in the heart of America's best proving grounds by the "House of Barracuda's" top flight craftsmen and anglers to perfect this really super fresh water combination. Fish-happy fishermen predict they will be No. 1 on the national tackle parade. So -- if it's BASS, SPECKLED PERCH (CRAPPIE) or TROUT you're after, be sure you have this super combination of guaranteed fish-getters in your tackle box.

**Super DEEPER**

Here's the MIDGET's brand new twin brother designed to dive deep down into the lair of those big ol' fellers. The brilliant colored scales, correct weight and natural deep running motion guarantees plenty of deep down action. Scientifically designed plastic body -- will not swell or waterlog. A natural for casting, trolling, or spinning. Packed in transparent plastic box of many uses. Colors: gold or silver scale. Weight 3/8 oz.

**Super MIDGET**

Winning acclaim all over the country for its fish-getting records! When you watch its terrific fish-teasing actions you'll know why. It dives and bobs just like a live minnow. Made of plastic -- never swells or waterlogs, correctly weighted and balanced for true, easy casting or spinning. Packed in individual transparent plastic box which has many other uses. Colors: gold or silver scale. Weight 5/16 oz.

YOUR FAVORITE TACKLE STORE HAS 'EM

**BARRACUDA**

FLORIDA FISHING TACKLE MFG. CO., INC.

SAINT PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, U.S.A.