FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S
Fishing Citation
"for that BIG ONE that DIDN'T get away"

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fly, spinning, or bait-casting tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.

Application for a Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation must be made within 10 days of the date fish was caught. Application must be made on the prescribed form as shown on this page. (Requests for additional forms should be addressed to: Florida Wildlife, Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida.)

Citizen,yoing recorded data of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

The receipt of any and all photographs pertaining to the registered catch, including the applicant and the fish, will be appreciated by the editor for use in Florida Wildlife Magazine.

Florida Wildlife Fishing Citations are available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the following freshwater game fish of the prescribed size requirements:

SPECIES
LARGEMOUTH BASS 8 pounds or larger
CHAIN PICKEREL 4 pounds or larger
BLUEGILL (BREAM) 1 pound or larger
SHELLCRACKER 2 pounds or larger
BLACK CRAPPIE 2 pounds or larger
RED BREAST 1½ pounds or larger

In This Issue
The Care and Feeding of Fathers Phil Ellis 5
Florida's Best Fish on a Fly Stan "Doc" Wade 10
Bennet-Water Bantamweights 12
Giant Wheels in the Everglades George X. Sand 15
Florida's Duck Hunting Outlook Cleveland Von Dressel 16
Ajax, Florida Plato Winder 19
Tusker Tug of War 20
Poor Fish Aren't So Dumb Julius Sturm 22
Down the Waterway Channing Cope 24
Stay-at-Home Duck 27
Get 'Em Together Edmund McLaurin 28

Departments
STRIKES AND BACKLACHES 36
JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST 37
MUSCLE FLASHES ... 38
SPORTSMAN'S BOOK SHELF 35

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COPYRIGHT 1956, BY FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION TALLAHASSEE
I had a pleasant surprise for your March issue and issue two. I used to read his column in THE STRIKES AND BACKLASHES PEORIA JOURNAL. He kept on his fishing hints.

H. J. Burnett, Box 422, Chillicothe, Ohio

**FREELAND JOURNAL**

**CENTENNIAL:**

I enjoy my monthly copy of your magazine. You have, without question, the finest fishing magazine that would come out in the following publications:

1. Florida's Game Animals
2. Biennial Report
3. Reprints-Florida Wildlife Scrapbook

**A. W. Gunther**

**District Game Supervisor**

**Clay County, Michigan**

**TVA FISHERMAN**

**DEAR EDITOR:** I had never seen your magazine until I read your March issue cover to cover, waiting for my car to be fixed. It's much better than the other two state magazines with which I am familiar.

I like the story about Dad and the bide-headed Bass and the one that TVA Fisherman on the 21st. I liked them because they weren't filled up with a lot of technical terms. Your paper didn't try to be the lakes of north Alabama. We have them and good fishing too. Anyway, he made me want to come to Florida—and I will—too.

A. J. Boswell

**Wetumpka, Alabama**

**Next Month**

**SPECIAL 50-PAGE NATURAL HISTORY ISSUE**

**INVIATION**

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is my check for another year of FLORIDA WILDLIFE. I plan to retire a year from July 1. I have been coming down from Florida next spring and look for a place one to have it to close to good bass fishing.

A. J. Boswell

**Wetumpka, Alabama**

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing my renewal of your fine magazine, FLORIDA WILDLIFE. I am a regular subscriber for the past three fishing seasons and I like it better each trip. Light tackle fishing is my favorite sport and the photo of the extra state are unlimited.

If any of your staff ever visit Ontario, I would consider it a pleasure to introduce you to some of the finest fishing spots.

May I extend to you all my best wishes for continued success with your fine magazine.

J. W. Wismer

**Stayton, Oregon**

**THE CARE AND FEEDING OF FATHERS**

**PHIL ELLIS**

**FROM WILDLIFE IN NEVADA**

**NEW YORK TIMES, NOVEMBER 18, 1956**

**Page 1**

BEFORE YOU FALL back in bed...a nervous wreck

Now, your fishing trip, you will have several opportunities. You will need to

shopping trip, if you insist. You can catch up on the

directly printed page and not get the old man out of your hair. And it's amazing how often the

will be without pop around to mess it up.

So, time has flown. The fishing trip is over, and he'll be back home tomorrow. It's the first time, he will be very late at night when he pulls up in front of the house. May I suggest you be up to meet him—but be careful how you do it. You see, he isn't going to feel very good. I really can't say what will happen. Fishing is the best thing he's had in years. He doesn't always win the argument. And that gives him a temporary view of the institution of mating.

But all in all, dad isn't complaining much. On this Father's Day, however, if you want to계剖 him, it's his birthday. In his cast...I have

a few tips. Let's start the festivities by having you—mom and the kids—suggest to dad that maybe he'd like to go fishing. And then, when you see him, don't talk to him—it's "all right if he goes—provided you go along too.

I know, you want to fish—but it's been his experience that when mom goes along, she catches more fish than pop does—and that's a bitter pill. So, since this is dad's day to howl, don't introduce any competition that might interfere with those sessions-to come on "how many fish I caught last Father's Day and how big, that's all the family goes on a. And he's to pick up the bills at the end of the month. And on those days when dad would much rather go fishing than clean out the attic—he doesn't always win the argument. And that gives him a temporary view of the institution of mating.

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JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST

By DENVER STE. CLAIRE

THE ALLAPATTACH Optimist Junior Conservation Club of Miami made it a clean sweep in the three divisions for the year of 1955. Runner-up was the Deane Mather Junior Conservation Club of Orlando, in third place, Bartow Junior Conservation Club.

Final results in the three divisions are as follows:

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR—PHIL ALEXANDER

2nd Place—Gene Gallant of Ocala

3rd Place—Mr. L. Simons of Barrow

LEADING COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR—Mr. Dave Thornton of Miami

2nd Place—Gene Gallant of Ocala

3rd Place—Mr. B. L. Timmons of Barrow

Official points earned for the year of 1955 were:

Philip Alexander, Miami 49,350

Jerry Hill, Ocala 41,410

Dave Willard, David Laird, Earl Powell, Miami David Laird, Earl Powell, Miami 25,602

Clyde Price, Panama City 21,750

Cathlyn McClain, Panama City 21,525

Henry Imbauer, Miami 18,500

Rating were compiled on the basis of points accumulated by nominees in access of 18,000 points.

Points were earned by completing conservation projects for the Merrit Point System.

Presentation of the awards was made in Panama City at the annual banquet for the installation of officers of the Bay County Girls' Junior Conservation Club.

The large trophy for the Outstanding Junior Conservationist of the Year was presented to Phil Alexander by Mr. Forace Holland, Chairman of the Game Commission. The trophy was a beautiful figure of a fly fisherman with his rod poised for casting. The figure was mounted on a stand with a gold plate inscribed THE OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST 1954-55, Presented by the Florida Game Commission.

A. D. Aldrich, Director of the Game Commission, presented the trophy cup for the Outstanding Conservationist of the Year to Earie Powell, Vice President of the Miami Club. Earl accepted the cup in behalf of the Club. Mr. James Bickerstaff, Manager of the Northwest Florida Region, presented the trophy cup for the Outstanding Counselor of the Year. Phil Alexander accepted the cup for Dave Thornton, who could not be present.

A special award was presented to the outgoing and incoming Presidents of the Bay County Girls' Club. The plaque was given by Mr. Robert Devine, Chief of Informations and Forestation. The award was for special service by girls' clubs for two consecutive years.

LEAGUE AWARDS

Phil Alexander was the trophy for the trophy that Phil Alexander won, he also receives a Winchester rifle, 22 caliber and a plastic fly fishing rod. The trophy was a gift from Mr. Earl Christpher, who represents several tackle dealers and manufacturers. The winchester rifle was donated by Mr. Marion Hardware Company of Orlando, Florida.

CLUB AWARDS

While attending the annual banquet of the Bay County Girls' Junior Conservation Club, I was touched by the very sentimental and kind show on the part of the Club. During the festivities of the banquet Miss Charlene Pledger, Outstanding President, presented the Club trophy to Arthur Nixon with a cup trophy for having so generously given his time and help in keeping their club together over the many obstacles that they had to overcome before becoming a successful club. All of us were proud of the young ladies for their consideration and recognition of those who helped along the way.

Also presented were about twenty group pictures of the youthful members of the Bay County Club. These pictures were given to those who in some way had inspired or helped them in their club activities. I was very proud of these girls, conquerors of their own fate, the recipients of one of the pictures. As I look over my shoulder, it hangs on the wall. Right along right side, it hangs the proclamation made by The Honorable LeRoy Collins, Governor, State of Florida.

JUNIOR CONSERVATION DAY—March 24, 1956, was a big day in Florida.

On this day, our Governor signed a proclamation naming the day Junior Conservation Day. The proclamation reads as follows:

The future of our State and Country lies within the minds and hearts of the youth who will grow up to fill the many positions for which our State is so fortunate. It is for this reason that we hold Junior Conservation Day in the hope that we may inspire our children to do their share in caring for our Beautiful State. The proclamation was made by Governor LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida.

Supplies Counselor at Camp. (Quartemaster), Secretary of League to report to Executive Secretary on Progress of League. Strengthening Clubs in need of Assistance. Cooperation of Clubs and League with Advisory Council. Our Thank You column

Other donations for the Junior Conservation Club have come in since we listed those in the April number. We are so very much any kind of help offered to those who take time and find time to sit down and write us a check for a very special and worthy cause. We may list some of those interested.

Mr. Porter, Marion Hardware Company, Ocala $25.00

Innovative Paper Company Panama City $25.00

Newspaper Company, Inc. of Miami $25.00

Sun Plaza Motor Manor, Silver Springs $10.00

Mr. W. E. McIntosh, McIntosh $10.00

Source had it that the Florida Wildlife Federation is to add a $1000 check to their grant-in-aid by the National Wildlife Federation, making a total of $1200. That's BIG, BIG NEWS, isn't it? It will really help us over a rough period we have been going through.

GUEST CABIN 10 CABINS were pledged in 1955. ONLY THREE (3) PINES HAVE BEEN FILLED TO DATE. WE STILL HAVE SEVEN (7) CABINS WHICH WERE CONSTRUCTED OF BAYWOOD. ARE YOU WANTED! You can understand why we need help.

To the Federation, both National and State, our sincere thanks for investing in human resources as well as Natural Resources.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

LAKE EATON

There have been some changes going on at Lake Eaton where our beautiful Camp is located. The Game Management Division is in charge of these days planting grass within the Assembly Area and around the huge Mann Lake. Enough rain, we may be able to show some results by the time the camp opens.

RANK OF RANGER

The insignia rank for Rangers should be in this month.

It's gold embroidery on brown twill cloth. It will be presented when the Ranger recieves his badge. His badge number attains 10,000 points. So all of you who have accumulated these number of points, please send in your personal papers with a personal note to the Executive Counselor or Advisor. In next month's issue, we will start listing the ranks by roll call.

(Continued on Page 24)
Muzzle Flashes

By EDMUND MCLAURIN

A MEDITELY, good shooting with a handgun is a great deal more than a matter of making things at the same speed and location. It is a matter of doing things of interest to the shooter and doing them with an eye to beauty and form. The Muzzle Flashes action engineer has a number of tasks to perform, each requiring a different level of skill and attention. The engineer must ensure that the gun is properly aligned and that the sights are correctly set. The shooter must also be aware of the effects of wind and other factors on the accuracy of the shots.

When performing "dry" practice, and later during live firing, the gun is sighted in and zeroed so that the sight of the gun is exactly aligned with the target. This ensures that the shot is accurate and consistent. Similarly, the same attention is paid to recoil and noise, which can affect the accuracy of the shots. The shooter must also be aware of the effects of weather conditions on the gun and the accuracy of the shots.

The Muzzle Flashes action engineer is responsible for ensuring that the gun is properly aligned and that the sights are correctly set. The engineer must also ensure that the gun is properly sighted in and zeroed so that the sight of the gun is exactly aligned with the target. This ensures that the shot is accurate and consistent. Similarly, the same attention is paid to recoil and noise, which can affect the accuracy of the shots. The shooter must also be aware of the effects of weather conditions on the gun and the accuracy of the shots.

For home "dry" practice use a small target such as a bullseye in a good light and at eye level. At thirty feet, a bullseye the size of a pinpoint makes a good aiming point. At thirty feet it can be even smaller.

JUNE, 1956

MALCOLM WILSON
FLORIDA'S
BEST
FISH ON
A FLY

The jews of the chain pickerel sport an array of sharp pointed teeth befitting the predacious habits of the "water walker."—W.H.

FLORIDA'S
BEST
FISH ON
A FLY

the pickerel

By
STAN (DOC) WADE

The jews of the chain pickerel sport an array of sharp pointed teeth befitting the predacious habits of the "water walker."—W.H.

My first experience with what I think is the best fish in Florida for fly-fishing enthusiasts was on Lake Talia Apopka—old "Sal Apopka" to Hernando County natives. I was fly fishing for Florida Largemouth Bass with a deeply sunken yellow marabou streamer working my fly among the "bonnets" along the weedy shore. I had had a few small bluegills twitch the "tail feathers" but all were too small to get the large hook. When I saw a small wake behind the fly I took it to be another small "brim" but when the strike came and I raised my stiff but light, hollow glass rod, the rod took off in a slashing run into the pads. My leader fouled on the stout stem of a big lily pad, the fish came to the top and jumped like a grey-hounding small fish. Then I saw that I had hooked a pickerel—"jackfish," to most native Floridians. Scientists call him Esox niger but unless I have forgotten all my Latin this means black pike—and I have never seen a black pickerel or even one dark brown in color. He is a beautiful fish—shiny greenish or olive on the back shading to white on the belly and covered with chain-like markings. These characteristic markings explain why he is called "chain pickerel" in most northern states and why he used to be called by scientists what I think is a more appropriate name—Esox reticulata.

For some strange reason the early settlers in various states christened the strange new fish they found "jackals" when they could not understand the Indian name or did not know what else to call them. Our common saltwater "jackals" is another example. In Maryland many anglers called that "Jack salmon" and use the same name to describe the walleye or pickerel. Just why our early arrivals, most of whom were of British ancestry, gave the pickerel the very common pike of Great Britain is similar in no way to the days when requirements were quite generalized "Jack"—as witness the jack in a deck of playing cards.

In any event, all in the northern range of the chain pickerel he has always been prized as a game fish, and afforded whatever protection he seemed to need. The one exception is in Lake Champlain which divides the states of New York and Vermont—the Canadian border. Here shooting pickerel and northern pike early in the spring when they come into the shallow shore waters where the lily pads and butter- brush and willows stand in a foot or two of water has been a "sport" since time immemorial. Few indulge in the questionable practice today but neither state will prohibit this spring shooting for fear of the other will not follow suit! How foolish can legislators get?

Here in Florida this widely distributed fish is the most under-rated of all our game fishes. Most pickerel are taken by anglers fishing for Florida Largemouth Bass and are disappointed and mad when they find a pickerel has taken the bait instead. They usually kill them and throw them on the shore when they get back from their outing where the 'coons and other scavengers clean them up—in time. Such treatment of a fine game fish is inexcusable even if the pickerel did spoil a lively bait fish or hit a plug or spoon intended for other quarry. I assert, without too much fear of contradiction, that the pickerel is a good game fish and good eating—when taken on suitable tackle and properly dressed and cooked.

I know of no better sport in Florida than fly fishing for pickerel in those lakes and rivers fortunate enough to contain them. They are not found everywhere. They like clear water with little or no trace of salinity. They like plenty of "bonnets" or other lily pads; stands of water grass and the tops of down trees where water weeds are thick. They will often be found in water so shallow it seems they can be scarcely concealed—and in such a location it is simply murder to hook, especially those of a pound or two. The really large ones are less likely to put up an offer. Barely indeed will a pickerel jump when taken on a minnow, frog, plug or spoon-spinner rig. The fly rod and the light lure seems to make the fish, in the main, what it is. It is obvious that no fly fisherman ever game can give an angler any real sport if taken on gear too heavy for the fish. What fun is there in fishing a fish which will average less than five pounds on a heavy casting rod.

trolling rod or a pole resembling a junior telephone pole? The fish has no idea what it is supposed to do; it's like pitting the good little man against the good big man—he isn't a prayer! What then, is the best way to fish for pickerel and get the greatest fun out of it. The answer is easy—on a light fly rod using a sunken fly. Pickerel are needleknives for a bright fly or one resembling a minnow—and pickerel are principally minnow feeders. Whether the angler is expert or not makes little difference. If he can get his fly thirty feet away in the kind of habitat pickerel prefer, he can—and will—catch pickerel. They are not "scary" fish, one may watch your boat from fifteen feet away but take the fly the instant he sees it. If the rod is not too heavy and stiff and the fish not too small he will give as good an account of himself as any other game fish.

What gear then, is best suited to fly-fishing for pickerel? First, the rod, a glass or split bamboo rod of 8' to 8'-6" weighing 3½ to 4 ounces. Hollow glass is cheaper and better, dollar for dollar, than bamboo or anything else. I have never tried the split bamboo rods are too heavy, too stiff and rust too quickly in our humid climate. Glass however cared for. The line need not be an expensive one; a size D level nylon line will do the job.

If you want a line that will give you more distance and handle better in the wind get a forward-taper (torpedo-head) line. These lines are made with a short forward taper, a heavy belly to give needed casting weight and a light "running line" on the rear end. They are better—no doubt about that—but cost several times as much and offer but little advantage for pickerel fishing. Pickerel are not line-sly or leader-shy so a level nylon leader of about ten pound test will do nicely. If you prefer a tapered leader be sure the tippet to which the fly is tied is at least 10 lb. test since pickerel have many sharp teeth and will cut off the fly frequently. The pickerel has a poor sense of smell and the northern and northern pike and often will engulf the fly and several inches of leader so protect yourself. You will not make the fly last long before you might resent taking your good fly away with him.

The modus operandi? Ease along in your boat or wade along shore to within casting distance of lily pads or grassy patches. Drop your fly and let it sink a few inches or feet depending on depth of water, how bright the sun may be or how warm or cold the water is. These factors govern the depth at which pickerel like. Then twitch the fly along slowly in concentric circles. making it dart as minnows swim when going about their business, stripping it in the lane with your left hand while the right activates the fly through the rod tip. Let the slack line fall in the water or the bottom of the boat but have it creased so it will float. A floating line is a real advantage when you have to pick up your fly to avoid mangling a rod or other obstruction. At times you will not work your fly more than a yard or two, then pick up for another cast. No other method of angling offers this advantage so you can fish small pockets in the pads that bait casters and spinners—even the most potent fishing gear can do little good at.

What flies? Most of the flies intended for bass fishing will take pickerel. There are three patterns that top all the others in my estimation. The Mickey Fin, with its silver body, red tail and red wing with yellow center is my first choice. In second place I would put the Silver and Gold Marabou with silver-ribboned black body and a red throat hackle. In show position—I say just one way that any hairwinged or bucktail fly or feathered streamer that resembles a minnow will suffice. I prefer a silver body, red tail—with yellow tail almost as effective—a red throat hackle and light gray feathering from the tail of a desert mule deer.

Pickeral have favored the brown from the tail of a young Florida broad is excellent. Better and more of a chestnut-fawn color than northern deer wear. Some pickerel anglers use this color in place of a gold-golden or wobbler but I do not like them—they seem to be always hitting me in the back of the head! If a spinner is used as in the "face," on a long leader, I use a small increase strikes—use the smallest "yellowleaf" blade. A fly of this kind is an excellent pattern for the speed of retrievals to get to a four inches in over-all length and are tied on fly long.

(Continued on Page 11)
**BONNET-WATER**

**BANTAM WEIGHTS**

**BLUEGILL**

Within the ranks of the fresh water angling fraternity there are numerous clans, each with its own particular champion. "Pound for pound, the gamest fish that swims" has been used to describe, at one time or another, practically every creature that wears fins. The Atlantic salmon, the steelhead, the grayling, the musky, the largemouth bass all have their vociferous supporters. For cut and cut popularity, however, you will travel far to discover a fish that will pull down more votes than the bluegill. From the youngster who has but recently discovered the joys of angling to the oldster nodding in the serenity of a sunlit creek bank, the devotees of this dynamic mite are multitudinous. Why not? — certainly the bluegill possesses many virtues which assure him a permanent and prominent position in the angling lore of the nation.

Not at all particular in his choice of sustenance, the bluegill will seize a variety of edibles limited only by the size of the object for the fish has a relatively small mouth. His feeding proclivities make him popular not only with the cane polishers but also with the fly fishermen and advocates of small spinning lures. Where they occur at all, chances are there will be a good population; the bluegill is a prolific species, producing progeny with assembly line efficiency. In southern waters, reproductive activity occurs during all but the coolest months. "Bedding" in Florida is at low ebb during December and January. Up to 51,000 eggs have been found in a single bed and ovary counts have revealed as many as 67,000 eggs in a single female.

Perhaps it is because they must early in life develop the competitive spirit in order to assure themselves of sufficient food in the face of pressures from the swarming multitude of kin, but whatever the reason, the bluegill is almost always ready for a meal. During the warmer months, the daily food intake of the bluegill and other sunfishes will equal about 1/20th of their body weight. A variety of insect forms and various crustaceans make up the bulk of the food items.

Except for the periods of optimum water temperatures when bodily functions proceed at an accelerated pace, most fish will feed very little in the 24 hours following a full feeding. Seasonal changes, particularly in water temperatures, cause considerable difference in feeding habits of fish. Most of the rocky-rayed fishes consume less food during the winter months than they do at other times of the year. The exception is the crappie or speckled perch which is a notably active winter feeder.

As with the other members of the family, the Centrarchidae, a group which includes, in addition to other sunfishes, the crappie, and the much touted largemouth bass, the bluegill is a scraper. True, he leaves something to be desired in regards to size from the strictly sport fishing point of view, but on light tackle he will put up a scrap all out of proportion to his actual weight. A one-pound bluegill is a nice one, a two-pounder is something to talk about. A four-pound twelve-ounce specimen taken in 1950 still remains the official heavyweight champ.

It is difficult to outline the original range of the bluegill at this late date but its natural distribution is generally considered to have included Minnesota, the Great Lakes to Lake Champlain; the Mississippi River system, eastward to Florida and northward in the eastern part of the country at least as far as New Jersey. Stocking of waters where the species was formerly unknown has been carried on to such a degree that there is scarcely a portion of the United States where suitable waters exist that do not have a bluegill population.

Bluegills, like the other Centrarchids, are considered more or less warm water fish. Optimum conditions consist of fertile waters of moderate temperatures with firm sand and mud bottoms supporting an abundance of aquatic vegetation.

Carrying on the family tradition, the bluegill is a nest builder. The male takes care of the nest building, rooting and forming out a shallow, cup-like depression on the lake or stream bottom. Once this chore is finished, the prospective father seeks out a female and steers her to the nest he has prepared. Once the eggs are deposited, the male drives his mate away. He remains in the vicinity, standing guard over the eggs and later chaperoning the young'sters for a short period until they are able to fend for themselves. The male (Continued on Next Page)
GIANT WHEELS
IN THE EVERGLADES

By GEORGE X. SAND

NOT LONG AGO Bill Oliver, a mechanically-inclined sportsman of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, decided to purchase a set of large wheels and build himself a "swamp buggy" for hunting use in the nearby Everglades swamp. The only wheels which Bill could unearth, however, happened to have "a few additional parts already attached to them" as the Army surplus dealer dryly told him over the long distance phone.

Since the man had quoted what seemed a reasonable price for the lot, Oliver agreed to buy it en toto. He told himself he could probably use some of the parts.

When "it" arrived, however, Bill's eyes bugged out. He had bought a contraption so monstrous in size and fantastic in performance that passing motorists stopped to stare open-mouthed whenever he took it abroad.

The juggernaut weighed 8,000 pounds. Over 15 feet in length, it was a dozen feet wide and towered 10½ feet above ground. When it clanked and rumbled over the earth by means of its four huge drum-type wheels, each seven feet in diameter, it stopped for nothing; it was designed to be equally at home over miry swamp or deep water, as from a river or lake. It could climb with equal ease from a deep ravine or a hycnith-choked alligator hole.

Oliver was elated. He set about immediately to convert the mechanical monster for use on his hunting trips. No longer would he and his 17-year-old son, Freddie, have to concern themselves with the ever-encroaching "No Trespassing" signs; they could now venture where no others had been able to go before.

END.
FLORIDA'S DUCK HUNTING OUTLOOK

By CLEVELAND VAN DRESSER

According to the general consensus of opinion, Florida sportsmen had the best duck hunting season during 1955-56 they've had for 15 years. There were more bluebills, teal, local mallards and ringbills in the state than they have been in over a decade. Lake Okeechobee was loaded, and failure to get a limit was more the exception than the rule. The Inland Waterway was crowded in certain areas, and rafts of several hundred ducks were seen along its length as far south as Lake Worth below West Palm Beach. Also the inland lake section was well populated, and the Gulf Coast had more than its usual share of waterfowl. Likewise the Canada goose flight measured up to expectations around St. Marks and adjacent areas. In short, wherever sufficient food and water were present, large numbers of waterfowl were also present.

In connection with all this abundance of ducks, some very pertinent questions arise. Was last season a fluke? If it wasn't, what brought it about? Perhaps more important, does this mean that ducks are on the rise and consequently shooting will improve in the future? And, finally, what, if anything, is being done to improve the overall condition of waterfowl in and for Florida?

Answering such questions takes some doing. Several mighty long range factors enter into the picture. With most game birds and animals, it's a local problem. For instance, quail and turkey stick to their own bailliwicks, and if conditions can be improved in that region, then it can reasonably be expected such birds will increase and consequently shooting will improve.

Not so with migratory waterfowl. They range over entire continents, and what happens as far away as Ontario and Saskatchewan can have a very definite effect on the winter duck population of Florida. Further, conditions all the way down both the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways have a direct bearing on the duck situation in the Sunshine State. It is a complicated and interlocking setup with the game commissions of a score of states plus the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service all playing important parts.

Before any attempt is made at detailed analysis of the duck situation, there are a couple of basic factors that must be established. Ducks go where there is food and water, plus a minimum of harassment. In all movements of waterfowl, those conditions are paramount.

New for the various questions:

First—was last season a fluke? And if not, why not? According to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, last season was definitely not a fluke. Despite some shrinkage in overall marsh areas due to the continuing evils of drainage for agricultural, industrial and other purposes, better use was made last year of waterfowl areas than in previous years. Both federal and state wildlife management officials and technicians utilized more efficiently the areas under the jurisdiction of the TVA, the Fish and Wildlife Service created three refuges along the lake chain stretching from Kentucky to Alabama. Plenty of aquatic foods and cereal crops were raised along the shore of the man-made lakes. Ducks soon got wind of the fact they had a long range feeding stretch stretching along the erstwhile Tennessee River which made their appearance. The greatest attention was paid to the newly created TVA Flyway—those ducks that proved to be the most abundant.

The upshot of the whole deal is that millions of ducks and hundreds of thousands of geese now wing their way south (and north) along the newly created TVA Flyway each fall and spring. Best of all, the southern terminus of this new area leads directly to the west coast of Florida.

Each year the number of birds that use this new route increases, with the natural result that the Peninsula State is getting more birds than it used to.

First, the question answered, let's take a look at Query No. 3—Does this mean ducks are on the rise?

Admittedly that is a stickler. There are many factors involved. So begin with, the heart of the duck population depends, of course, upon nesting areas. For more years than sportsmen like to think about, marsh areas in our northern states, once lush duck producers, have been steadily drained for various purposes, mostly agriculture. Of late there has been a decided movement against further agricultural expansion. At long last Uncle Sam has decided that America is raising too much, and lands are going back into a swale kind, which should help to augment well for wildlife of all kinds. It seems highly probable that this has an effect to return back to marshes.

On top of that, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has lately embarked on an effective program of reestablishing nesting areas in the northern states. This brings us directly to Question No. 3—what, if anything, is being done to improve waterfowl for and in Florida?

This off, improvement of waterfowl areas is given top priority by most of the eastern states when it comes to spending Pittman funds. For those who don't know, these funds come from the tax on sporting ammunition. There are millions of dollars appropriated, and judging from the past record, 70 percent of it will be spent on waterfowl, which shouldn't offend the fisherman, whoufowl, which shouldn't offend the fisherman, who

HERewith are several of the more pertinent examples of what it's doing to improve waterfowl conditions in the eastern states.

1. A project is underway in Vermont to provide

(June 1956)
AJAX, FLORIDA

BY PLATO WINDER

The womenfolk fooled us, Mister Editor. A fisherman would go home and meet such unfamiliar questions as, "How much bigger is this fishing business going on, John?" Or, "Isn't this the fifth time you have been fishing, including today and tomorrow?" Hadn't you had enough fishing for one week, Lester?" Such questions are very deconcentrating to a man accustomed to talking fishing, going fishing, and coming from fishing and it wasn't long before our Ajax menfolk began to discuss the quarrelsomeness of their wives, wondering what got into them and wondering still more how they could meet the situation at home. Meanwhile, the state of affairs got a little worse and the sides of the joining sides and took up verbal cudgels against their fishermen husbands. Finally the situation became acute and the boys got together for a meeting in the back room in my store.

A lot of thought had passed through their minds and under the bridge and by the time they got to the meeting almost everyone was primed with some kind of an idea on how to meet the situation successfully. There was a lot of talk went on, Mister Editor, and finally the boys decided upon what they wanted. It was this: since the Lord had provided three times as much water on the face of the earth as he provided land, it was clear that he intended his people to use as much water as he did duty on land. This bare-faced statement formed the basis on which all the boys were to rest their arguments. It seemed unbeatable.

For the first week or so things improved somewhat, then gradually a crack began to develop in the wall of the fence. One citizen hurried in to tell his comrades that he had had a hair-raising experience last Thursday. Calling it a day, he went home for a fishing meal he found everything sloppy and unfit to eat. "What's gone wrong with your fish?" they asked. "Oh, you don't know the same back and bold, the Lord provided three times as much water as he did land so as much water as you find in our stews and gravings we have in having," and so it went. "What about dropping in our store and asking anyone in the house to come in and sit down and let me keep the coffee pot boiling for them. At home they were used to sitting here and there and drinking the coffee. As you know, Mister Editor, there isn't anything worse than sloppy grits, sloppy pie, sloppy hash, and sloppy coffee. Any one with half an eye could tell who would insensitive to the best of things. All right, then, the time for compromise arrived. I'm proud to say, Mister Editor, promise had arrived for us to have these men a little time off from their labor of years. He has given them two days at home in which he has time to speculate on his former wife who doesn't get what she wants out of him.

(Continued on Page 39)
TUSKER
TUG OF WAR

LAST HUNTING SEASON, when you casually scanned the rules and regulations governing the shooting of game and game birds in Florida, you probably noticed that several of the Management Areas had listed under legal game, wild hogs.

The hunting of wild hogs was introduced for the first time last year on three of Florida's 28 Wildlife Management Areas, and although this new phase of game hunting will be confined to those sections for the time being, the possibility of wild hog hunting on a larger scale throughout the state is practically assured.

Those public hunt lands, maintained by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission on which wild hogs are considered game animals include The J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area, The Everglades Wildlife Management Area and the Eglin Air Force Base Wildlife Management Area.

Because of the popularity and success resulting from these public hunts it became evident that a restocking program would be necessary, especially on the Corbett and Glades Areas. The task was assigned to Jim Powell, wildlife biologist with the Game Management Division.

The job of trapping wild hogs for transporting proved to be both difficult and dangerous. Although the origin of these wild hogs stems from those domestic strains left to shift for themselves years ago, they have developed all the keen wariness and viciousness so natural to the wild beasts who must depend solely on their own instincts for survival.

When trapped or cornered, the wild hog is most dangerous and will attack his tormentor rather than beat a hasty retreat. After generations of foraging and surviving in the wilds of Florida's isolated marshlands, the wild hog has lost many of the docile qualities so common in his domestic counterpart. The wild hog has become larger, often weighing between 250-300 pounds, exceedingly swift and has developed a disposition both wild and nasty. The large tusks developed from living in the wild proves a dangerous weapon that must be treated with all due respect.

Soon after the close of the 1955-56 hunting season, Jim Powell and his crew set up a base of operations in the vicinity of Myakka State Park with plans to transfer at least 100 of the tusked beasts to those management areas where the wild hog is now considered legal game.

The task was tedious and dangerous with those involved experiencing many trying and anxious moments. These heavier members of the porker clan often broke loose from their trappings and would immediately take after intruders invading their private and primitive lands.

More than once, members of the trapping crew were forced to seek refuge on trucks and jeeps, holding on while the enraged hog would charge and gash at the vehicle.

On March 24th, Jim Powell reported the program completed for this year and his tally sheets showed that a total of 152 hefty new game animals were now enjoying the natural habitats of the J. W. Corbett and Everglades Wildlife Management Areas.

END
"Poor Fish"

AREN'T SO DUMB

By JULIUS STURM

WHEN I RECENTLY FELL INTO HASS LEOFF, a deep-sea diver from the west coast and an old pal of mine, he had been long standing, at Silver Springs, and he opened my eyes to the seeing of a bass. If there was one hundred feet under the water, I watched lures as they landed and the way they moved through the water, and the reactions of the fish. I could also see the line lying on the surface or leading in the water.

An actual incident of the Florida largemouth, I had accused myself to watching for "holes" among the lily pads and have watched the fish take the "hole", but he was only a short distance, then return for a closer inspection, but a close-landing area never seemed to keep him away.

Another happened to me, that the largemouth never failed to rush toward a lure which landed about four to six feet of. Of course they didn't always hit it, and this in some instances, but it was the same times when the plug or fly was allowed to lie perfectly still.

When you have a percentage of a bass which struck the lure after rushing up to it. To be inconsequential—less than 1%, you should estimate. When something hit you after the lure began to move through the water.

The usual reaction was that bass would follow an opposite part for a little distance so he could watch it. And I actually saw a largemouth take a plug into his mouth to "taste" it, but so gently that the caster didn't know it.

A lure which stayed on the surface while being retrieved brought about roughly the same reaction. The fish would rush up to within about a foot of it, then stop suddenly. If the bait moved just a little bit, it sometimes drew a strike. But if it moved sharply, it increased our minds.

These facts actually contradict many of the favorite tenets of the above-average fisherman. A lure which you try to land "on the fly" will scare him into immediate flight, but one which lands far enough away so that he doesn't consider it a threat to his safety, with the degree of confidence in a large number of the Florida bass, and hunger is probably responsible for this reaction.

And, no matter what you may have heard or believed about the natural aggressiveness of some jacks, I am definitely fixxxy about what he eats. Looking at it from his point of view—which is the onl...
DOWN THE WATERWAY

By CHANNING COPE

Foreword

Navigation is a fascinating subject. To be fully competent in this field you must know the old methods, the modern methods, by sextant, chronometer, nautical almanac, Bovdish tables, azimuth tables, the tiller log and the sounding machine. Added to these you must know one or more modern short cuts such as H.O. 211 or the Weems Star Altitude Curves. Recently the radio direction finder and the depth indicator have become prominent. For deep water ships the gyro compass and the infrared equipment are available. So are the depth finder and radar.

It would be wonderful to afford a deep finder, a direction finder, a revolution indicator to determine speed, an errorless compass and a ship-to-shore radio and the fun of sailing would be increased considerably by their use. Yet, most boat owners get along without them and take their vessels from Boston to Key West via the inland waterways in safety and with great satisfaction.

There are times when the simple sextant is all that is necessary and there are times when these methods are vital. My wife and I, under the patronage of Mr. Percival F. The Mitty of St. Marys, Georgia, who engaged in eleven exciting days in navigating the waterways from New York to Norfolk. These were eleven occtober days of fog and mist, the Mitty drew 45 feet under load, we were scarcely an hour when we were searching for buoys. Under these conditions a deviation table is indispensable.

Performance here were taken during the 15 months that Mr. Cope and our dog Tammie, and I cruised the entire length of the Florida in our houseboat The Emmaissance.

The reader will understand this statement of his own experience. On navigation we believe that the test of performance and the reference is made to seamanship, which training he has obtained and cannot be taught by writing.

Mme. Cope takes a turn at the wheel of houseboat The Emmaissance while Mr. Cope relaxes and soaks up some Florida sunshine.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Large-scale charts to show the area where you are and the direction and distance to where you plan to go.

A compass, not less than 5 inches in diameter, to use in going in the right direction.

A taffrail, log, engine-revolution indicator, watch, clock, or some gadget to tell the speed of your vessel.

A pelorus (dumpy compass), not less than 7 inches in diameter, for taking bearings of objects on shore that are shown on the chart, to tell you where you are at a given moment.

A lead and lead-line to tell you the depth of water where you are.

Parallel rulers for laying off courses, directions, or bearings on the chart.

Dividers, for use in determining distances on chart. (Always use the long scale nearest your determination to determine distances. The latitude scale is on the right and left sides of the chart. Each minute of latitude is one nautical mile in distance. Do not use the upper and lower sides of the chart for scales of distance.) These are correct for distances on the chart.

WHERE FOUND?

Navigating equipment can be found at Weems System of Navigation, Annapolis, Maryland; Bradley Co., Miami, and Wilder O. White, Inc., 40 Water Street, New York.

CHARTS

Navigation is used for getting from one place to another on the water. To know where you are at all times is the first duty of the navigator. The second job is to know how to get to the place you want to go.

For this you need the charts of the entire area you intend to cover in your trip. A small-scale chart of the entire area gives you the over view picture but for actual navigation you need large-scale charts for each division of the area. You need to know the direction from one place to another, the depth of the water you plan to pass over, the identifying numbers of the buoys and lights, the color and movements of navigational lights, objects along the shore such as tanks, steetles, etc., so you may recognize and use them for your own advantage. It is especially useful data shown on the large-scale charts.

An up-to-date inland waterway chart. The depth of water may have changed since the chart was published. The directions between objects on the chart are correct.

DIRECTIONS?

Are your chart are TRUE. If your boat bears 120 degrees from a lighthouse SHOWN ON THE

FAILS TO ENTER. If you took the bearing of your compass it would likely be 122 degrees because the compass is always wrong. This is only occasionally true. It is possible that the compass bears the earth's magnetic pole and by the iron and other magnetic objects in your boat. Your chart shows you TRUE directions or courses but you must correct these to COMPASS courses to steer your boat in the right direction.

COMPASS ERRORS

The earth's pull on the compass is called VARIATION. Variation is the same thing as deviation. It is the error in any given area and is shown on all charts in the compass rose like this. Vari. 2' E. 1953. Annual variation on a CHARTS. The compass error caused by the iron in your boat, the direction it lays when built and by other local factors is called DEVIATION. Deviation of any compass is usually different from place to place. It (deviation) differs on most of its headings. When a compass heads 100 degrees its deviation may be 3 degrees East and when it heads 200 degrees it may be 7 degrees West. That's why you need a table for your compass which tells you what deviation is.

CHARTS vary in degrees, marked.

Let's assume you are starting down the waterway in your boat. You stop. (Call it Number One.) From Number 1 to Number 2 you have no error, say.

This chart says the direction from number 1 to number 3 is 155 degrees, this is the TRUE direction or course. If your compass had no error on this route it would read 155 degrees, this is the true error. The difference between the compass and the true error is the error. If your compass says the direction between numbers 1 and 2 is 150 degrees, it is 5 degrees wrong because the chart is right say. Here it is true error. Let's find out if the error is Easterly or Westerly and how much is deviation and how much is true error.

Memorize this sentence! CAN DIE MAN VOTE TWICE? Now change these to DIRECTION, MAGNETIC, VARIATION, TRUE.

JUNE, 1956

Reduce them to initials.

C D M V T

17W 17W 159W 6E 165 W

You know the true course (165) just so put it down under T. The compass course is 176 just put it down under C. Go to the compass rose and read the variation. Let's say it is 6 East. Put it down under V. Let this rest a moment while we learn the next rule. Adding Easterly errors. CORRECTING means you are figuring compass courses towards true. When you are figuring from true toward compass you are UN-CORRECTING so you are subtract Easterly errors. When you are correcting you subtract Westerly errors and when you are subtracting you add Easterly errors. Simple! All you remember is in correcting you add Easterly errors and the rest falls into line. Now let's go back and finish that problem.

We will begin at True. It is 165 and the Variation is 6 E. The rule when Uncorrecting (what you are doing now) is subtract Easterly errors. So we take 6 from 165 and that leaves 159, which is Magnetic. Put that down under M. The difference between Magnetic and Compass is the deviation. In our case it is down under L is E or West or From M to C is Uncorrecting and subtracting the result will give you West as the answer. Let's check. In Uncorrecting we say ADD Easterly or add 6. From the 159 we add 6 and get 165. Thus, the range buoys bear by compass from your boat. This is done by having the chart and the range bearing on the boat's head is in 360°. You, as a pilot, now have to take a bearing of the range buoys as the helmsman calls out "Mark." This is the true bearing because the pelorus is set the same as the range bearing, so it reads 176° on this heading your deviation is 17 West.

The next bearing should be taken when your boat is heading 15° by course. The boat is then 15°. Have the helmsman call out when the boat's heading is 360°. At the hearing of the range buoys is 178°, follow the system we learned earlier and:

C D M V T

17W 17W 159W 6E 165 W

Now complete.

June.

Landing: C. B. D M V T B

30 176 17W 159E 165

45 159 17W 159E 165

60 172 13W 159E 165

75 169 17W 160E 165 96

165 165 159W 160E 165

125 159 159W 160E 165 (etc.)

During 15 months of cruising the waterways of Florida in The Emmaissance, the author was able to gain a valuable insight into the qualities of the fishing.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

(Continued on Next Page)
STAY-AT-HOME DUCK

FLORIDA DUCK

FEMALE MALLARD

BLACK DUCK

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

JUNE, 1956

26

27

Even when cruising the inland waterway, a knowledge of the readouts of navigation is important, especially during foggy or stormy weather.

The lead-line is used to tell the depth of the water you are passing over. (Continued on Page 31)

Even when cruising the inland waterway, a knowledge of the readouts of navigation is important, especially during foggy or stormy weather.
GET 'EM TOGETHER!

By EDMUND McLARIN

Stand a valuable gun in a room corner and sooner or later it will get jarred or jostled to the extent that a mishap occurs and is more often, repeated! It doesn't take a very hard fall or sliding bump against a solid object to put a dent in a shotgun barrel, and a similar mishap can seriously damage the sights on a rifle. Gun stocks, too, seldom emerge unscathed from falls and gradually garner a number of unsightly scratches, dents, chipped places and hairline cracks that greatly mar appearance if not performance.

The problem is especially acute where one has several firearms distributed among as many corners of the home and where guns kept in closets have to compete with clothing and household goods. A gun cabinet will assemble all these valuable guns in one place; protect them from falls, dust and rust; rack and display them attractively, and reduce the possibility of firearms accidents resulting from chance mishandling by young children in the family or their inquisitive friends. Usually the acquisition and introduction of an adequate and neat gun cabinet to the home will receive hearty approval from the distaff members of the family, past tired of cluttered storage closets and sweeping around guns found in room corners.

Most shooters of today own several guns, and to house them properly a fairly large, multiple unit gun cabinet is needed. As will be noted from the accompanying illustrations, styles and personal ideas of furniture-type gun cabinets vary considerably. Those cabinets that stack guns vertically make advantageous use of the minimum of available space.

But if your long-barreled guns primarily represent match target rifles, especially selected for accuracy and used in serious tournament competition, consider a gun cabinet that will rack and store such highly specialized equipment in a horizontal position. According to E. H. Harrison, rifle expert on the technical staff of the National Rifle Association, "There is reason to believe that standing a sensitive match target rifle for long periods in a vertical position may have some bad effect on the bedding of the metal parts in the stock, which will affect grouping performance over a series of shots. In such special cases rifles should be stored horizontally.

In building a gun cabinet, fit the parts—especially doors—dust-tight but not truly air-tight. You want to avoid any possibility of condensation occurring due to sudden changes in weather or room temperature. But be sure to add some planned inclusion of small, inexpensive containers of Silica-Gel or Dry-O-Can, or one of the low-voltage electric Damp-Chasers, placed on the floor of the closed cabinet will take care of any possible dampness that might seep in or result from condensation.

Although measuring only 45" wide x 69½" high x 11½" deep, this gun cabinet stores up to twelve rifles and shotguns, while the two large storage drawers accommodate smaller miscellaneous items. Colodanato Bros. design. JUNE, 1956


Most of the available "do it yourself" kits come with all wood parts precut and are ready for assembly and finishing. Besides specific instructions for professional appearance assembly, all necessary nails, screws, hardware and locks are included. The one major item usually omitted from these packaged kits is the glass that may be needed for doors—because, generally, it is cheaper to buy the glass locally than pay the higher freight or express rate its shipment with the kit would involve, since the commercial cabinet craftsmen explain.

For the do-it-yourselfer handy with basic tools, full size or scaled (Continued on Page 41)
FLORIDA’S BEST FISH
ON A FLY

(Continued from Page 11)

shank hooks with straight eyes so they can be used behind a spinner body, a lure that ties with "P-D" (tumbled) eyes with a spinner—they just won’t work. Never forge a fly by acting like a minnow, darting here and there in a zigzag course; pickled fly simulating a leech or letting the fly sink a few inches once in a while then bring it back toward the top.

String your pickleder through both lips preserving the safety-pin type of connector. They catch in strong weeds along the gills and we want to keep them wet, so don’t go fishing when we get ashore. Then we’ll snip and have it ready to use.

"I don't know whether guppies will bother a swimmer or not. I’ve always preferred not to find out."
The above editorial first appeared in the Optimist Magazine. It seems to be in keeping with the advent of spring and thought of sport hunting. However, we would like to take this opportunity to point out that in some parts of our country and under the terms of our hunting laws, "Let's go fishing!" These words are often the key which opens the gate to sportmanship, to an understanding of the ways of nature, and to an appreciation of the out-of-doors. You are the guide, the person to whom the person for whom you will lock up to as an example of a sportman. The spring—any fathoms, uncles, grandfathers, and brothers—don't sit back and wait for somebody else to do it. Take pride in being a fisherman, instead of complacently agreeing with the "take a boy fishing" slogan and resting on your laurels. We don't neglect your duty and don't miss out on the fun.

Set an example for your young companion by obeying the laws and practicing the rules of good sportsmanship. Teach him the fundamentals of fishing, impress him with the importance of conservation, point out to him the feathered and furred creatures of the creek bank, and discuss his problems with him. All benefits derived will be mutual.

END

BOYS WILL BE PRESIDENTS

FROM THE FISHERMAN MAGAZINE

WHAT A boy is? He is the person who is going to carry on what you have started. He is going to sit right where you are sitting and attend to those things you think are so important when you are gone. You must adopt all the policies you have, but how they will be carried on depends on him. Even if you make leagues and treaties, he will have to manage when you are at home. When you get done, all your work is going to be judged and praised or condemned by him. Your reputation and future are in his hands. He will assume control of your city. Right now the future President of the United States is playing marbles, and the most promising actor of his day is complaining because he doesn't want to go to bed. Not your contemporaries and your fellow citizens, but the boys out there in the schoolyard, are going to say whether all you were a grand and noble hero or a blatherkite. It is the boy who will amend your rules, alter your creeds, laugh at you if you're kind of you and say that you didn't do the best you could, or he may not. Watch your step. All your work is for him, and the fate of the world and of humanity is in his hands. Be it well to be sure to pay him some attention.

JUNE, 1956
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OUTDOOR RECREATION

SUNSET CAMP SESSIONS

By the time you receive this issue of the magazine, our Camp will be getting underway. Our first week this year will be exclusively for girls in the various clubs throughout the state. The session begins on June 10-16. The following week is the Fifth Annual Conference Week. The sessions are designated for June 17-23. During this week, reports from the committees will be given, a few new experts will be announced, and the outgoing Board will be held. The big event is the election of Officers for 1965-66. Some of those who are affiliated with the League will be allowed to vote. Dues must be paid by the League and the application must be in good standing. Delegates selected by the clubs will participate in all meetings and will assist in creating new policies for the State League.

The President of each club is an ex-officio representative. In the event that one delegate is selected for each fifty members, the League will be in good condition for the following year. For example, if you have 149 members and your club is allowed to have four members, all will have to be present at the conference. The one thing most important though is paying your dues on time. It’s not too late to do that. The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. To be able to vote this year during the annual conference your dues for 1955-56 must be paid. A new ruling by the Board of Directors at their quarterly meeting is that for one of our plans to be carried out, perhaps we could have a film made showing the ritual. This means that members from eight through eleven are required to pay.

SUCCESSFUL TRAPPING METHODS

If you are interested in trapping, you can learn what is necessary for trapping success by reading articles written by D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc. 250 Worth St., New York, N. Y. 131 pages, illustrated with sketches by the author.

Walter Chansler is an experienced trapper who has presented in "Succesful Trapping Methods" a good deal of trapping lore, much of which has been overlooked in previous books treating this ancient pursuit. The book gives much practical information and will be of value to the youngster who has never set a trap, to those who have done some trapping. The more experienced part-time trapper and the professional who realizes the value of knowing of the boys’ methods will find hints and leads which will prove of interest to them.

There are several chapters on the general aspects of trapping—from locating good fur-bearing territory, prospects for fur game, equipment, modern trapping methods and devices, traps, tricks, and aids, laying out the trapline, set locations, and making the set for foxes. Separate chapters are devoted to the principal fur-bearing animals of North America, their habits and the most productive methods of trapping. There is a section on trapping by means of pelts, the marketing of furs, and tanning of skins for personal use.

The quality of the writing in this book shows that the author is a skilled trapper’s guide. On the other hand, the illustrations leave much to be desired. For a fur trapper, or the experienced hand, “Successful Trapping Methods” is a worth-while guide.

TRAVELS OF WILLIAM BARTRAM

As an important new illustrated edition of The Fishermans Handbook, an even more complete edition of an angler's encyclopedia, with a foreword and introduction by the nation's fishermen, the book is 512 pages packed with a variety of information of interest and value to all sportsmen as well as to the salt-water sportsman.

There is a "Where to Fish" section devoted to salt water hotspots on the east and west coasts as well as the Hawaiian Islands, Panama, Baja California, and Mexico.

Freshwater hotspots are treated by individual states, territories, and provinces, and there is a listing of some of the best fly shops and addresses of departments from which additional information may be obtained. There is a detailed and well-illustrated section on the major types of fishing, a thorough treatment of natural baits used in both fresh and salt water. Yet fish biology deals with a variety of subjects in that entire subject is an introduction and a description of both fresh water and salt water fishing.

Other sections deal with rods, reels, lines, lures, hooks, and tackle, plus a thorough treatment of boats, motors, trailers, outdoor equipment, and subjects of interest to the fisherman. The Fisherman's Handbook is an excellent program of instruction in fishing and is well worth the modest price of $1.50.

The following pamphlets are available from the Department of Information and Education, Game and Fresh Water Fish, and Florida, and to the Thirty-five Kilometers of Lakes, Ponds, Okeechobee, and Lake City: Florida Game Animals Snakes—A Brief Report—1953-54 Summary—Trapping, Fishing, and Turtles—Identifying Florida Bass The Disappearance—Further Ten Commandments of Safety 45 Conservation Projects Organizations The American Alligator—Minnows Are Bohwite Cafeterias the Answer? 35

FOR additional information about the Miami Herald, please visit the Miami Herald's official website. You can also read their website in full if required.
FEDERATION NOTES

SEVERAL NEW SPORTSMEN ORGANIZATIONS recently affiliated with the Florida Wildlife Federation. The latest member clubs include: The Anglers Club of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale; The Collier County Conservation Club, Naples; and the Everglades Conservation & Sportsman's Club of Miami.

Immediate past-president Dr. H. R. Wilber represented the Federation at the National Wildlife Federation Convention held in New Orleans March 2, 3, and 4. It was learned at the convention that Florida would receive a Grant-in-Aid from the National Conservation to be used for the Junior Conservation Youth Camp sponsored by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

The Florida Federation added $590 to the $900, grant and the total was turned over to Denver Ste. Claire who is in charge of the Youth Program.

Dr. Wilber accepted an invitation to serve on the Florida Water Resources Committee.

The word is out that interested parties plan to fight the present gaging of roe smelt being carried on by the U. S. Army Engineers.

The U. S. Army Engineers have been so busy working at their Flordia project, they apparently haven't noticed how dry it's become in Center City. The Engineers seem to be unaware of how to win hurricanes and influence water levels.

The Army boys are talking about how to get some water, why not send a tug down to the antarctic and tow the fishing back? Fish can be parked at various spots off our coast and fresh water shipped into our various canals and streams.

As a matter of fact, we could have a proper size iceberg for any community town that we can provide fresh water for the community and air conditioning at the same time.

Miami would, undoubtedly, be the first to be gaged for some of the economic size bergs if the fad caught on. They could tow a couple of them into the Everglades, stop up all the outlets, and soon have a cool climate and a natural for smallmouth bass and rainbow trout.

This could be perhaps Arctic Graying as well.

END

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

June, 1956

MONEY, I want you to meet an old fishing buddy of mine.

END

THE latest meeting of the Florida Wildlife Federation was held at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club in Jacksonville on April 22.

Although complete details of the meeting are not available at press time, the following action was taken:

The Board of Directors and Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission be appointed to a qualified Chief Wildlife Officer to be completely in charge of the Law Enforcement Division.

Resolution—That the Florida Wildlife Federation oppose the sale of lands in question at the Jim Woodruff Dam and that said property be kept as direct supervision of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

The next meeting of the Federation is set for April 22 and will be held at the Tackle and Gun Club in Jacksonville.

The Federation is on record as approving a salt water fishing license with provisions for research and development of salt water sport fishing in Florida.

One of the chief points discussed included discussions of Tallahassee's plans to build a municipal park in lieu of the Apalachicola National Forest and the Game Commission has expressed interest in these sources Study now being conducted in the Wakasa-Crescent City area. A formal request for the use of National Forest lands for industrial expansion will be made to the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Forest Service.

Crop dusting occasion was Mr. Oscar Rawls of the U. S. Army Engineers.

A complete and detailed report of the April 22nd meeting will appear in the July issue of Florida Wildlife.
TWI NGS aren’t like they used to be around the old campfire, what with so many new innovations. Take camp bread, always used to make it as you needed it.

Now the average camper-outter simply adds a couple of loaves of “store-bought” bread to his camping supplies. Or if he still likes hot bread with his meals, he’s probably long ago fallen victim to many of the preserved biscuit mixes with which you can hardly escape even if you try.

And in the present day of port- able refrigeration, one can even go a little further and take along cans of biscuits, all ready to eat.

But there are still a few of us who like to start from scratch when it comes to making camp bread. Most common and probably best liked is old-fashioned baking powder biscuit.

**BAKING POWDER BISCUITS**

(like Mother used to make)

2 cups all-purpose flour
2½ teaspoons baking powder
½ cup shortening
1 cup milk

Mix flour, baking powder and salt together. (You may do this before you leave home and have it handy to use—no last minute measuring.) Cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse corn meal, then add milk, stirring well until mixture forms a dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured board and knead a few times. Then roll out to a thickness of about ½ inch, and cut out with a 2-inch round cutter. Place on a greased cookie sheet, and bake in a moderate oven until they are a pale golden brown. Serve hot with honey or jam.

**WILDLIFE QUIZ**

**HERE ARE TREES common to the Florida woods**. You probably see many of these friendly sentinels every day. See how many of the missing letters and have a beautiful forest of your own. If you complete the work in two minutes, you WIN. Answers on page 41.

1. **M** - **A** - **L** - **O** - **L**
2. **P** - **L** - **K**
3. **P** - **E** - **T**
4. **S** - **C** - **A** - **R**
5. **B** - **S** - **W**
6. **C** - **R**
7. **S** - **W** - **G**
8. **B** - **O**
9. **A**
10. **P** - **M**
11. **G** - **O** - **L**
12. **O** - **N**
13. **T** - **I**

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

**AJAX, FLORIDA**

(Continued from Page 13)

require his presence for more than two hours.

There is still some division of opinion among the men as to whether it is better to stay home two days hand-running or a few hours each day with the dogs several days of the week. A few citizens prefer to rush in for an hour or two now and then, while others prefer it steady fishing but those of deeper insight prefer the two days hand-running. I have been advised by Keith remarks after trying it out both ways, “Seems like I enjoy myself more when fishing after I been home two days with my wife pecking on my bones.”

Respectfully, 
Plato Winder, Storekeeper Ajax, Florida

**Breed History**

O NE OF THE MOST interest- ing stories you will ever read in the history of the various breeds. How they began, why they are here, for what purpose they were bred, etc. all make fascinating and, at times, exciting reading.

For instance, disaster played a large part in introducing the Pekin- ese and the Chesapeake Bay Re- treiver to the general public. In an- cient China the Pekinese was sac- red. The oldest strains of the breed, believed to have been started in the eighth century B.C., or even earlier, by the Imperial family. They were guarded as carefully as the crown jewels and a thief who stole one of these dogs faced death by torture. Naturally, the breed was unknown outside of China.

This state of sacred isolation continued until the British lorded the Imperial Palace at Peking in 1860. The soldiers found the breed of dogs in- deed Pekinese scattered through- out the palace, apparently killed by the Chinese as they wished to keep them in “unclean” hands. Four of the little dogs were found alive but fright- ened, hiding behind some drapes.

Nearby all hibiscus flowers are one-day blooms, opening early in the morning, and wilting in the late afternoon.

They were taken back to England and were soon transported to Queen Vic- toria. The other three were kept and bred by Lord Hay and the Duke of Richmond to produce the first of the breed on Occidental soil.

The Chesapeake Bay Retriever, the only native American sporting dog, owns his existence as a sepa- rate breed to a shipwreck. In 1807 an English brig was wrecked off the coast of Maryland. Its crew and two Newfoundland poodles were res- cued by American sailors. Upon their return and sale in England the dogs to several kind inhabitants who befriended them.

These dogs soon earned fame for their ability as retrievers and it is believed that the Chesapeake Bay breed was produced when they were bred either the flat or curly coated retrievers which had been brought over from Europe.

The Chesapeake, in 1860, a definite type of dog was developed and the breed soon became known throughout the world for its faults in the rough waters of Chesapeake Bay, where the after retrieving up to 350 ducks in one day.

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN**

Florida Caverns Golf Course at Marianna, Fla. is the only 6,300-yard, par- 72 operated golf course in Florida.

**Jump at the Chance!**

REMEMBER there’s still a chance to win one of the next issues of Salt Water Sportman magazine—ONLY $1.00! Salmon, halibut, lingcod, rockfish, and halibut—all are yours with a subscription to Salt Water Sportman, the only magazine in the world devoted 100% to salt water sport fishing. Remember—only by subscribing to Salt Water Sportman can you be assured of getting the information you need to go fishing! Now’s the chance—the greatest issue ever is yours for only $1.00. Order your subscription right now.
FLORIDA WILDLIFE FIELD TESTS AND TELLS

Ducks Unlimited

The Board of Trustees of Ducks Unlimited, the nation's leading waterfowl conservation organization, appropriated $500,000,000 for its 19th Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, to continue the work of restoring and conserving duck breeding, hunting and shooting opportunities in the Canadian Prairie Provinces in 1956. This appropriation is the largest ever made to Ducks Unlimited, which has accomplished much of its work in cooperation with sportmen who contribute to its support to preserve and encourage the sport of waterfowl hunting and its greatest years during the past season.

With this appropriation of $500,000,000, the total amount sent to Canada soared to almost $5,000,000, a large increase which contributed to Ducks Unlimited since 1928 for the work of building or restocking more than 400 "waterfowl" on the breeding grounds in Canada where more than 60% of this continent's migratory waterfowl raise their young.

Re-elected president of the organization for the second term was H. C. Winthrop, president of Winthrop, First National Bank of Baltimore, Delaware, and winner of the Ingersoll Milling Company, Rockford, Ill., who has served as president of The Board of Trustees; Vice Presidents Willis J. Reed, Long Beach, Calif., and W. T. Harris, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Central Region; Robert L. Harkhaus, Chicago, Ill., the re-elected Treasurer, and Robert D. Schlueter, Minneapolis, Minn., the President of the Ducks Unlimited Co., Cleveland, Ohio, was returned as Assistant Treasurer were Clarence E. Stough and H. E. Willard, who serve as Secretary and Assistant Secretaries were Robert R. L. Harkhaus, Chicago, Ill., and New York, J. R. Stough and H. A. Willard, respectively. All the board members and their committees, and through them, the sportmen of their respective states, are doing good work.

The Ducks Unlimited president raised the question of furthering the cause of waterfowl conservation by increasing the number of people involved in its activities, and stated that while the membership of DU is growing, it is growing at a very slow rate, and without a strong and effective leadership and organization on the part of the ducks, it is sure to be that other and more important interests of society will encroach on their domain and they are more than likely to be withdrawn. All are important, but it is just that ducks all ducks must guard against.
This is no idle fantasy—it is becoming a fact as rapidly as man and nature can make it.

Looking over the entire waterfowl situation as it pertains to Florida, it seems quite safe to predict that things appear favorable. The extreme northern states are giving fruitful attention to improving nesting areas. States all along the flyways that lead to Florida are actively engaged in projects aimed at bolstering the annual migrations. The Fish and Wildlife Service has created a brand new flyway that has already funnelled ducks into the western part of the state and is destined to increase this happy procedure. And Florida right now is busily at work in making things attractive for the birds when they do get here.

One more thing, Cunningham, being a conservationist, albeit an enthusiastic individual, has told me he plans to get blue and snow geese established in Florida. He's had plenty of experience changing the flyways habits of Canada geese, and feels confident he can do the same thing with snows and blues. These two species are fairly prolific along the Atlantic Flyway, and according to Cunningham, there is no reason why they can't be induced to spend their winters here rather than in the Carolinas as most of them do now.

This is not to say that Cunningham wishes to deprive the Carolinians of any geese. He thinks there are enough to go around, what with conditions improving and all, so why should the snows and blues be deprived of a Florida vacation? He rows he will remedy that situation before long.

All in all the forthcoming duck season in Florida looks pretty good. And there is every indication it will improve as the years go by. END.

BONNET-WATER BANTAMWEIGHTS

There is a dark spot on the rear margin of the operculum or "ear" and usually at the base of the back portion of the dorsal fin. Shellsilcraper, Lepomis microphalus. There is some variation in the color pattern of this fish but the most common is a silvery-olive or silvery-blush above and whitish with dusky marking below. The dark spot on the rearward portion of the operculum is edged with red. The dorsal fin has 10 spines and 10-12 soft rays. The anal fin has 3 spines and from 9 to 11 soft rays. There is no black spot on the dorsal fin as in the bluegill.

Redbreast, Lepomis auritus. Color varies from brownish-gray or olive above to somewhat paler on lower portions. Breast bright orange or red. The long projection of the opercle is characteristic. The dorsal fins are short and rounded and the opercular sport dark. The scales of the breast region are much smaller than those on the sides. The dorsal fin has 10 spines and 11-12 soft rays. The anal fin has 3 spines and from 8 to 10 soft rays. Stumpknocker, Lepomis punctatus. The body coloration is generally a dusky brownish with small dark spots more or less arranged in regular lines. There is a dark opercular spot which lacks a bright color margin. There are 19 spines and 11 soft rays in the dorsal fin; 3 spines and 10 soft rays in the anal fin.

Warmouth, Chaenobrytus corvariatus. The body conformation of this fish is rather robust and the mouth large and rather bass-like in appearance. In coloration the way the mouth is dark olive to grayish brown often flecked with gold or greenish giving a brassy over-all hue. Cheeks and opercula often with a streaked pattern. Opereculum flank is short and blackish. The dorsal fin has from 9 to 11 spines, usually 10, and from 9 to 11 soft rays. The anal fin has 3 spines and from 8 to 9 rays. (The rock bass which resembles the warmouth has 6 to 7 spines in the anal fin.)

Rock Bass, Ambloplites rupestris. The rock bass is a rather thick bodied fish which somewhat resembles the warmouth, and is often confused with the species. The mouth is sturdy and bass-like in appearance. There is no conspicuous opercular spot. The usual coloration is brownish or greenish with darker markings on the sides and on the dorsal, caudal, and anal fins. There are 13 spines and 10 soft rays in the dorsal fin. The anal fin has from 6 to 7 spines and 10 soft rays. Flier, Centrarchus macropterus. The flier is a circular appearing fish with a greenish or silvery-green body coloration. The belly is yellowish. A series of darker markings on the body, mostly below the lateral line is the usual pattern for Younger fish have a dark spot on the rearward portion of the dorsal fin (similar to the bluegill in this respect) but it gradually disappears with age. There are 11 to 13 spines and 12 soft rays in the dorsal fin. The anal fin has from 7 to 8 spines and 15 soft rays. —END.
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