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Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Florida WILDLIFE

JUNE, 1956

The Florida Magazine for all Sportsmen

25 CENTS

BONNET-WATER
BANTAMWEIGHTS

DUCK HUNTING
OUTLOOK

BEST FISH ON A FLY



FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S

Fishing Citation

"for that BIG ONE that DIDN'T get away"

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

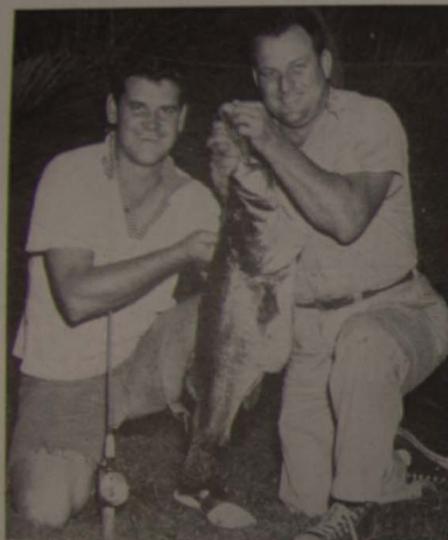
All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fly, spinning, or bait-casting tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

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.)

Citation, showing 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 fresh-water 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	1 1/2 pounds or larger

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APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE _____ Date _____
 Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name _____ Address _____
 Species of Fish _____ Weight _____ Length _____
 Type of Tackle, Bait Used _____
 Where Caught _____ Date _____
 Catch Witnessed by _____
 Registered, Weighed by _____ at _____

 (Signature of Applicant)

VOLUME 10, NO. 1

Florida WILDLIFE

JUNE, 1956

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

Dedicated to the
 Conservation, Restoration, Protection of Our Game and Fish

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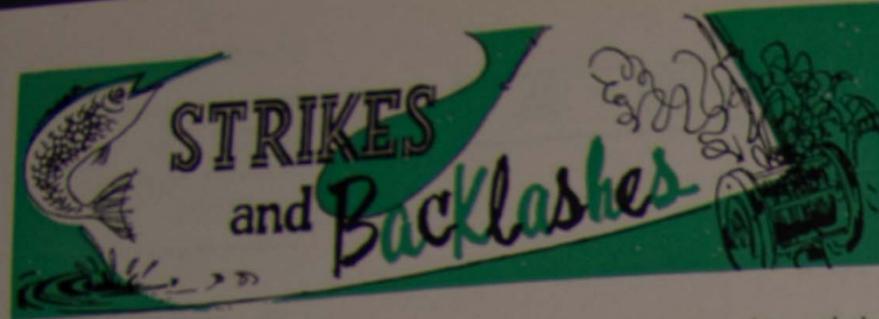
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ROSE TALLAHASSEE



WATER PROGRAM

Dear Editor:

The article in the April issue of *Florida Wildlife* by Forace Holland, Chairman, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission entitled "Who Owns Our Waters", is indeed a timely one. In it, he sets forth in considerable detail the hazy and confused situation which appears to hover over the fresh waters of the state, as regards their use by the people.

In concluding his article Mr. Holland makes seven recommendations which he thinks should be included in a complete "Water Program" to benefit the public. The first three of these relate to clarifying the question as to which are public waters, the right of access to such waters and the designation of certain waters as public property. Certainly, if there now exists any doubt as to these matters they should be resolved by appropriate legislation which will finally settle them.

I have heard of properties abutting on fresh water lakes which, it is said, extends for various distances into the waters of such lakes. However, in the instances with which I am familiar, owners of lakefront property have riparian rights and actually own only to the water's edge. I think, too, that it is generally understood that the lakes themselves are state waters and therefore may be used by the public, the one exception being those lakes lying wholly within the corporate limits of a town or city, which are regulated by town or city ordinances.

Assuming that the state has jurisdiction over all or most lakes outside the corporate limits of towns and cities, I would like to add one more recommendation to those advanced by Mr. Holland. He is correct, in my opinion, in advocating the use of all available lakes by the public but this should not include the MISUSE of these waters. If the state has jurisdiction, laws should be in effect to protect the legitimate users of them. Steps should be taken to insure that speed-boats are operated by responsible people, in conformity with safety rules promulgated by the appropriate state agency. There is a sad lack of such control by any source over this matter and no recourse can now be had to prevent the reckless speedsters from denying a whole lake to the use of others.

State laws regulate the use of the state highways. Let them also regulate the use

of its waters to insure the safety and the rights of those who use them. The "Water Hog" is as much a menace as is the "Road Hog."

H. J. Farmer, Col. U.S.A. Ret.
Winter Garden, Fla.

CHIEFLAND TO ITALY

Dear Sir:

It is a notable occasion in the Clyatt family when the *Florida Wildlife* arrives each month. I would like to add my plaudits for your fine publication.

As a displaced Floridian, I can see that you are performing a wonderful service for the people of Florida, as well as for those less fortunate who must reside in other states, but who are profiting by the experience and leadership of the Conservationists working in Florida.

To your recently published list of countries in which *Florida Wildlife* is read, you can soon add Naples, Italy, where my family and I will spend the next two years.

Please change my mailing address to that indicated.

T. L. Clyatt
F.P.O. New York
(formerly of Chiefland, Fla.)

OLD ACQUAINTANCE

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is my check for another year of *FLORIDA WILDLIFE*. I plan to retire a year from July and we are coming down to Florida next spring and look for a place to live. It will have to be close to good bass fishing.

**NEXT
MONTH**

**SPECIAL
50-PAGE
NATURAL HISTORY
ISSUE**

I had a pleasant surprise when I read your March issue and saw Bill Abbot's picture. I used to read his column in the *PEORIA JOURNAL* and kept a scrapbook of his fishing hints.

J. L. Burrell
Galesburg, Ill.

FREE LITERATURE

Gentlemen:

I enjoy my monthly copy of "*Florida Wildlife*." You have, without question, one of the finest magazines of its type.

The March issue listed several pamphlets which are available upon request. I would be very grateful if you would send me the following publications.

1. Florida's Game Animals
2. Biennial Report
3. Reprints—Florida Wildlife Scrapbook
4. Conservation Manual for Civic Groups

A. Gene Gazlay
District Game Supervisor
Gladwin, Michigan

TVA FISHERMAN

Dear Editor:

I had never seen your magazine until I read your March issue cover to cover while waiting for my car to be fixed—yesterday.

It's better than the other two state magazines with which I am familiar.

I like the story about Dad and the Bull-headed Bass and the one about the TVA Fisherman on the St. Johns. I liked them because they weren't filled up with a lot of technical terms. Your TVA fisherman didn't mention the TVA lakes of north Alabama. We have them and good fishing too. Anyway, he made me want to come to Florida—and I will—soon.

A. J. Bonnar
Wetumpka, Alabama

INVITATION

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is my renewal to your fine magazine *FLORIDA WILDLIFE*. It has been my pleasure to visit Florida periodically for the last 20 years and I like it better every trip. Light tackle fishing is my favorite sport and the possibilities in your extraordinary state are unlimited.

If any of your staff ever visits Ontario I would consider it a pleasure to introduce you to some of our northern fishing.

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

J. Wheeler
Stayner, Ontario

The Care and Feeding of Fathers

By PHIL ELLIS

From *WILDLIFE IN NORTH CAROLINA*

ON PAGE ONE of the column tonight, we have a little thing called "The Care and Feeding of Fathers." Pop—you're allowed to listen to this if you insist—but what I have to say for the next few minutes is directed primarily at mom and the kids. And I hope they'll listen very carefully. You see mom, dads aren't really an oppressed lot. They have it pretty good all year long... mostly because you and the youngsters are around to occasionally inflate pop's ego—and give him something to brag about when he can't think of anything else to say. I'll admit it gets a little rough occasionally when the rest of you in the family go on a buying spree and he has 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 dim view of the institution of matrimony. But all in all, dad isn't complaining much. On this Father's Day, however, if you want to really make the old man feel like he's king in his castle... 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, for heaven's sake, don't tell him it's "all right if he goes—provided you go along too." I know, you like to fish—but it has been my experience that when mama 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 big one was and how long it took me to land him and blah-blah-blah."

Now, after dad has recovered sufficiently from the shock of the suggestion that he go fishing—and has picked himself up off the floor—he'll probably say he thinks that's a mighty fine idea. And he'll call up some of the boys and before you can say—give me ten—he's got a trip lined up. And here's where you can be of real service again. In spite of your burning temptation to bring the subject up, for heaven's sake don't say "dear I know this trip is going to cost quite a bit of money, but if you spend that money on yourself, I know you won't mind if I go out and buy myself a new hat and a new pair of shoes and a new dress, and a new this and a new that, and so on." I think pop will feel a little better about going if you don't bring that matter to his attention. If you insist on going on a shopping spree while he's away—keep it a secret until he's back and recovered. The shock will be infinitely easier to take.

Well, the remainder of the getting-away routine is fairly simple. You might volunteer to pack his bag, but when it comes to lining up the fishing tackle, don't open your mouth. Fathers are a little peculiar about having mom tell them they should use 25 instead of 15 pound test line. About the only thing you should remember to do when he leaves the house at some ungodly hour—such as two o'clock in the morning—so he can get to the coast and be aboard his boat by five—is to, at great personal sacrifice to yourself, squeeze out a smile and a "have a good time, dear."

before you fall back in bed... a nervous wreck.

Now while dad's gone on this fishing trip, you will have several opportunities. You can sneak in that shopping trip, if you insist. You can also catch up on the sleep you lost for the two days it took to get the old man out of your hair. And it's amazing how much cleaner the house will be without pop around to mess it up.

So, time has flown. The fishing trip is over, and he's back home again. In the first place, it 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 be feeling very good. I really can't say what will have caused this physical weakness, this shaky hand, this throbbing head. But I'm reasonably sure he won't be feeling very good. So when you greet the king of the castle, do it gently. Don't make any sudden moves. He might break. And then, the next thing is to find out about the trip. This requires a great deal of tact. You should never say "how many did you catch." Instead, very gently and carefully inquire "did you have any luck?" You see, there's a difference there. The latter question gives him a chance to either say "Oh Boy—you bet!", or, with guarded manner, "pretty good"... or, as is so often the case... "Nahhhh. Too much wind." And if that last one is the answer you get, drop the subject right there. He'll get around to the bitter truth soon enough—when he has successfully put together the words that he thinks will do the trick. He's been thinking for the past five hours how he is going to tell you he got two lousy bluefish and a five pound stingray. It will take him approximately seven minutes additional time—after he's plunked himself in his favorite chair in the livingroom and has a chance to adjust himself to your cooperative silence.

The next step is to administer the proper potions to relieve his illness—which is very real by this time. As to what that will be, I imagine it should be something tall and cool. And you probably know your husband well enough by this time to know what the contents of the admixture should be to get the best results.

Then, ease him off to bed... and let him sleep. In the meanwhile, I trust you have had forethought to instill into the youngsters—who haven't seen pop for ever-so-long—the rank inadvisability of dashing headlong into his bedroom at six o'clock in the morning, leaping on the bed like a pack of beagles, and yelling "Hey, Daddy... did you catch a fish!"

From there on, things will pretty well work themselves out. You should only remember to keep his lack of success a secret. He may weaken the next time you have dinner guests in and tell the truth... but if he doesn't weaken—or, even if he doesn't tell the whole truth—let him have his story. After all, you got that new dress—and he doesn't know a thing about it. And he won't until you decide to weaken and tell the truth.

Of course, there's an alternate ending to this story.

(Continued on Page 39)

JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST

By DENVER STE. CLAIRE

THE ALLAPATTAH Optimist Junior Conservation Club of Miami made it a clean sweep in all award divisions for the year of 1955. Runner-up was the Deane Mather Junior Conservation Club of Ocala and 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—Jerry Hill, Ocala

3rd Place—Duane Witt, Ocala

OUTSTANDING CLUB OF THE YEAR—Allapattah Optimist Junior Conservation Club of Miami

2nd Place—Deane Mather Junior Conservation Club of Ocala

3rd Place—Bartow Junior Conservation Club of Bartow

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

2nd Place—Gene Gallant of Ocala

3rd Place—Mr. B. L. Timmons of Bartow

Official points earned for the year of 1955

Philip Alexander, Miami . . . 49,350

Jerry Hill, Ocala . . . 41,410

Duane Witt, Ocala . . . 38,350

David Laird, Ocala . . . 35,790

Earl Powell, Miami . . . 25,600

Charlene Pledger, Panama City . . . 21,750

Cathlyn McClain, Panama City . . . 21,535

Henry Imhauser, Miami . . . 18,550

Rating were compiled on the basis of points accumulated by any nominee in excess of 18,000 points.

Points were earned by completing conservation project for the Merit 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 JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST 1954-55**, Presented by the Florida Game Commission.

Mr. A. D. Aldrich, Director of the Game Commission, presented the trophy cup for the Outstanding Club of the Year to Earl 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 Dade 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 Dahne, Chief, Information and Education. The award was for special achievement by a girls club for two consecutive years.

LEAGUE AWARDS

Aside from the trophy that Phil Alexander won, he also receives a Winchester Rifle, 22 calibre and a beautiful copper fly rod. The rod was a gift from Mr. Earl Christopher,



Denver Ste. Claire, Supervisor of Youth Education for the Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission poses with the members of the Bay County Girl's Junior Conservation Club at their annual banquet in Panama City. The Bay County organization is the first all-girl junior conservation club in the nation.

who represents several tackle dealers and manufacturers. The Winchester Rifle was donated by the Marion Hardware Company of Ocala, Florida.

CLUB AWARDS

While attending the annual banquet of the Bay County Girls' Junior Conservation Club, I was touched by a very sentimental and kindly gesture on the part of the Club. During the festivities of the banquet, Miss Charlene Pledger, Outgoing President, presented Wildlife Officer Arthur Nixon with a cup trophy for having so generously given his time and help in keeping their club together over the many obstacles 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 to have been the recipient of one of the pictures. As I look over my shoulder, it hangs on the wall. Right along side of it, hangs the proclamation made by The Honorable LeRoy Collins, Governor of the 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:

"Whereas, the future of our State and Country lies within the minds

and hearts of the youth who will soon grow into adult men and women; and

Whereas, the future of Natural Resources Conservation in Florida lies within our youngsters of today who are now undergoing training in wise Conservation practices; and

Whereas, Saturday, March 24, will signify the closing of the observance of National Wildlife Week in the State of Florida;

Now, Therefore, I, LeRoy Collins, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 24, 1956, as **JUNIOR CONSERVATION DAY** in Florida, and urge all citizens to consider the value of adequately training our junior citizens in wise Conservation practices that will ensure the future of our Natural Resources—soils and waters, forests, minerals, and wildlife.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 21st day of March, A. D., 1956 — (Signed) LeRoy Collins, Governor, (Signed) R. A. Gray, Secretary of State.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

During the two day session held in Panama City last March 24 and 25, a considerable amount of business was handled by the Directors:

Directors present were: Phil Alexander, Chairman, Miami Earl Powell, Miami Jerry Hill, Ocala Charlene Pledger, Panama City Cathlyn McClain, Panama City.

Two members were absent: Walter Krueger of Leesburg and Mike Davis of Hialeah.

The meeting was held at the Cove Hotel.

The Agenda for the third quarterly meeting was as follows:

Presentation of Board of Director's complete minutes to Secretary from August, 1952 to present time.

League and Camp operations—Attempt at Financial stability.

Ways and Means of raising money for Camp and League.

Purchasing trophies by League. Reports of Tag Days—Panama City.

League fees for members in clubs under 12. (8-11).

Organized Rifle and Skish Teams. Affiliation with NRA. (League).

Traveling expenses for Directors and Board.

Summer Camp Activities.

Supply Counselor at Camp. (Quartermaster).

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.



Phil Alexander (left) of Miami is presented a trophy as the outstanding junior conservationist of Florida. Commission chairman F. F. Holland made the presentation.



Earl Powell of Miami receives the trophy awarded the Miami Allapattah Optimist Junior Conservation Club as the outstanding club in the state. Commission Director A. D. Aldrich made the presentation. Powell is vice president of the Miami junior conservationists.



Jim Bickerstaff (right) Northwest Florida Regional Director presents a trophy to Phil Alexander in behalf of Dade Thornton, advisor of the winning Miami club. Thornton was unable to attend the meeting.

OUR THANK YOU COLUMN

Other donations for the Junior Conservation Camp have come in since we listed those in the April Issue. We appreciate so very much any kind of help offered to us and so to those who take time and find time to sit down and write us a check for a very special and worthy cause, we thank you sincerely.

May we list some of those interested people here:

Mr. Porter, Marion Hardware Company, Ocala \$25.00

International Paper Company Panama City \$25.00

Nasco Company, Inc. of Miami \$25.00

Sun Plaza Motor Manor, Silver Springs \$100.00

Florida Power Corporation, Ocala \$10.00

Mr. W. E. Christian, McIntosh \$10.00

We have heard that the Florida Wildlife Federation is to add a \$300 check to a \$900 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.

REMEMBER 10 CABINS were pledged in 1955. ONLY THREE (3) PLEDGES WERE FULFILLED. WE STILL HAVE SEVEN (7) CABINS WHICH WERE CONSTRUCTED, WHICH MUST BE PAID FOR! You can understand why we need help at this time.

So 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 are some changes going on at Lake Eaton where our beautiful Camp is located. The Game Management Division is busy these days planting grass within the Assembly Area and around the huge Mess Hall. With 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 a League member attains 10,000 points. So all of you who have substantial claims for having accumulated these number of points, please send in your proper papers with proper signature of Counselor or Advisor. In next month's issue, we will start listing the ranks by roll call.

(Continued on Page 34)

muzzle flashes

By EDMUND McLAURIN

ADMITTEDLY, GOOD SHOOTING with a handgun isn't easy. You have to do several things at the same time—and do each of them right—if you are to know and enjoy accuracy-making coordination. . . . And you don't get the necessary know-how from watching frontier Western gunplay on TV; handgun skill must be individually earned.

Recent MUZZLE FLASHES texts have dealt largely with achieving balanced, relaxed immobility of handgun and shooter. Such things as handhold (gun grip), stance and alignment of handgun sights with target, once properly accomplished, become inactive operations with practically no further physical movement demanded thereafter for that particular shot. Squeezing the trigger, however, is an active operation even though action is confined to the tip-joint of one's trigger finger. Yet 90% of your acquired ability as a pistol shot will stem from your demonstrated skill in completing this one final active operation correctly.

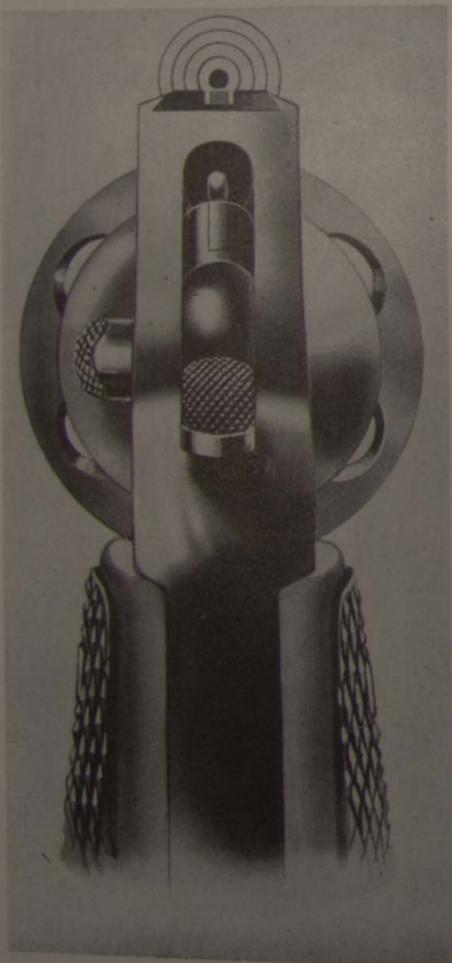
To shoot well, it is very necessary that you develop the ability to gradually increase finger-tip pressure on the trigger until the handgun is fired without disturbing a perfect sight picture. This controlling of the trigger during the last stages of firing is just as important in fast shooting as in slow, deliberate firing; the only difference between the two is that the smoothly applied trigger squeeze is speeded up for the rapid fire stage. But for slow-fire or for fast shooting, this trigger mastery is not easy to come by. That's why there are more poor and fair shots than experts in every large group of handgunners.

Although mechanically the same as an operation, squeezing the trigger properly in actual shooting is much harder to do than with an empty gun. With live ammunition, anticipated recoil and noise, and anxiety to make a perfect shot, contribute to the tendency to jerk the trigger at the final moment of release—something that is fatal to maintained sight alignment and accuracy. Similarly, the same attend-

ant noise and recoil serve to cover up personal shooting errors disastrous to accuracy, and unawareness of and inability to analyze these existing faults considerably handicap a handgunner in developing into an expert shot.

Simulated firing, or so-called "dry" practice, with an empty gun while observing all the finer points of gun-grip, stance, aiming, breathing and trigger control, will bring hidden bad shooting habits into sharp focus, will contribute to their quick defeat and to much desired handgun expertness.

In its program of handgun education, the National Rifle Association



When performing "dry" practice, and later when firing live ammunition, pay more attention to your handgun's sights than your target—which is exactly the opposite of what the shotgunner should do!

(which also sponsors regional and national pistol tournaments) says that when you "dry" practice with an empty gun you remained relaxed, do not fight the gun or become anxious in anticipation of report and recoil and therefore have less tendency to jerk the trigger during the habit-forming stages of first firings. Jack O'Connor, a national authority on shooting subjects, supplements the NRA's views by pointing out that most of a handgunner's wild shots come not because he cannot hold his pistol reasonably steady, but because he flinches and jerks the trigger at the last moment before the gun's hammer starts to fall. O'Connor also urges greatest concentration on one's sights instead of the target. . . . All true. Very true!

Likewise, Charles Askins, Jr., the oft-mentioned former national champion, time and again emphasized the importance of the trigger finger being able to reach the trigger easily and without strain and without rubbing the gun's frame. In his lessons on how to manage the trigger, Askins repeatedly pointed out that "the finger must be sharply bent away from the gun's frame on the right side, contacting the weapon only at the junction of the trigger-finger tip and the trigger. The contact point should be directly at a right angle to the axis of the bore. In such position the pressure of the trigger-finger's tip will be exerted directly rearward. . . a most important detail! If you find that your finger is so short you cannot avoid touching the gun's frame, it simply indicates the pistol has a frame too large for your hand". Askins later recorded this advice in much the same words in his book, *THE ART OF HANDGUN SHOOTING* (A. S. Barnes and Co., publishers), a text of much value to the serious handgunner, especially when supplemented by a copy of the National Rifle Association's handgun instruction manual, *THE ABC OF PISTOL SHOOTING*.

The great advantage of "dry" shooting is that it can be accomplished at home, or in a closed office, without the necessity of time-consuming and often inconvenient travel to a firing range. As Walter Roper, another national expert, once said, "Actual shooting is not at all necessary in order to develop fair skill with a pistol; in fact, "dry" shooting has the advantage of being possible at any time and of letting you see exactly what happens when the pistol's hammer falls. Most good shots put in a few minutes each day at "dry" shooting, which simply

means holding and sighting an empty gun and pressing its trigger. All that is needed is a small bullseye pasted on a wall or window as an aiming mark. While aligning the sights as perfectly as you can, and holding the handgun as steadily as possible, gradually squeeze the trigger for each simulated shot."

Probably one of the most striking examples of the value of "dry" practice over an extended period occurred during the year this *Firearms* Editor worked out of Orlando and roomed five days of each week at the "Y". His enthusiasm for firearms—and especially pistols—proved contagious to the fellow in the room next door. Even though he confessed that his work would temporarily make actual firing practice impossible, he had this writer order a top-grade target revolver, a Smith & Wesson K-22 Masterpiece.

Using a proportionately reduced bullseye pasted at eye level on a wall of his room, and in a good light, the tyro duly mastered basic fundamentals of proper grip, stance, relaxation and aiming and then thereafter devoted ten minutes morning and night to "dry" firing twenty simulated shots at the small, short-range bullseye. He patiently kept up his daily "dry" practice even though he never got an opportunity to actually fire his handgun with live ammunition. In fact, it was not until eleven months later that his working hours changed and he could get to a range for his first real powder-burning, but when that day came he proceeded to give an amazing exhibition of handgun skill. Shot after shot found the center ring of a standard 25 yard target. For him, long "dry" practice had paid off in exceptional mastery of handgun fundamentals and developed skill in being able to squeeze off aimed shots without disturbing his perfect sight alignment. Today he is regarded as one of the best pistol shots in Florida.

To duplicate the described home "dry" firing practice, you should use an aiming bullseye of such reduced size that, at short distance, it appears to be of the same size as a regulation bullseye at full range. At thirty feet, a bullseye the size of a penny makes a good aiming point; under thirty feet it can be even smaller.

Observing all the basic fundamentals of proper handgun grip, stance, relaxation, aiming and controlled breathing, as covered in previous texts, proceed to "dry" fire several shots, remembering to lower the gun and rest between each shot. You will almost immediately become



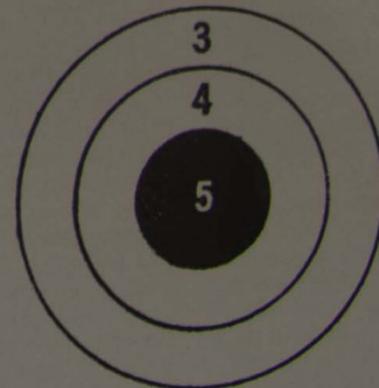
Squeeze a handgun's trigger slowly and smoothly, using only the tip joint of the trigger finger to apply the necessary pressure. The contact point should be directly at a right angle to the axis of the bore and the finger must be sharply bent away from the gun's frame on the right hand side, contacting the weapon only at the junction of the trigger-finger tip and the trigger.

aware of the effect that pressure on the trigger has on an aimed shot. You will find that although your hold may be steady and your aim perfect, the sights will not remain aligned on the bullseye unless the trigger is squeezed so smoothly that there is no trigger finger jerk and accompanying convulsive bob of the barrel and sights as the gun's hammer falls.

You want to apply the necessary trigger release pressure so gradually and so slowly that at some advanced stage thereof the hammer will fall at an unanticipated moment. A few practice shots will serve to make you aware that it isn't easy to apply this pressure only when the sights appear correct and in such gradual, smooth stages that the gun's hammer falls unexpectedly, to complete the shot.

Therefore, before engaging in daily sessions of "dry" practice offhand, first learn to release the trigger without anticipating the exact moment. A separate "dry" practice procedure is called for.

Sit down and assume a steady, two-handed shooting position by bracing your elbows against the inner sides of your legs, just above the kneecaps, with your empty handgun extended to full aiming position



For home "dry" practice paste a small target on a wall or window in a good light and at eye level. At thirty feet, a bullseye the size of a penny makes a good aiming point; under thirty feet it can be even smaller.

and with the right (gun holding) arm also supported by cradling its wrist between thumb and forefinger and across the palm of your left hand. Next, cock the hammer of your empty handgun—by working the slide if it is an automatic, or by cocking the hammer if a revolver—and again extend the gun arm to supported aiming position.

In this steady, comfortable position take aim at some small, eye level object. Then take a full breath, let out some of it and stop breathing momentarily by controlling lung and throat muscles.

With aim taken and breathing controlled, close both eyes and very slowly increase finger tip pressure on the trigger, but with your thoughts temporarily concentrated on your unseen target instead of your handgun's sights, until the hammer falls. The idea is to apply the trigger release pressure so slowly that you cannot anticipate just when the cocked hammer is going to fall, to complete the shot.

Controlled breathing should be synchronized with aiming and trigger squeeze steps so that inner tension (created by too prolonged holding of the breath) is minimized. If you become more conscious of your held breath than anything else, resume normal breathing, open your eyes, lower your gun and rest a few seconds before repeating the basic steps.

Master this special trigger squeeze coordination exercise and you can proceed to daily "dry" practice sessions offhand with confidence and ultimate success. Learning trigger release first with both your eyes closed will make trigger control mastery an almost sub-conscious act in later, full scale "dry" practice and live ammunition firing.

"Dry" practice pays off in good tournament scores and exciting, successful field shooting, but it must be both correct and regular, with greatest concentration of that all-important trigger squeeze. **END.**



FLORIDA'S BEST FISH ON A FLY

the pickerel

By
STAN (DOC) WADE

The jaws of the chain pickerel sport an array of sharp pointed teeth befitting the predacious habits of the "water wolf." —WH—

MY FIRST EXPERIENCE with what I think is the best fish in Florida for fly-fishing enthusiasts was on Lake Tsala 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 westerly 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 fish 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 sailfish. 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 reticulatus*.

For some strange reason the early settlers in various states christened the strange new fish they found "jacks" when they could not understand the Indian name or did not know what else to call them. Our common saltwater "jacks" is another example. In Maryland many natives call pickerel "jack salmon" and use the same name to describe the walleye or pike-perch. Just why our early arrivals, most of whom were of British ancestry failed to connect the pickerel with the very common pike of Great Britain which is so similar in appearance is a mystery. It may date back to the days when rogues were quite generally called "Jacks"—as witness the jack in a deck of playing cards.

In any event, all over 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 Vermont and New York at the Canadian border. Here shooting pickerel and northern pike early in the spring when they come into the shallow shore waters where reeds and button-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 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 clean water with little or no trace of salinity. They like plenty of "bonnets" or other lily pads; stands of water grasses 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 covered and in such a locale will almost invariably jump when hooked, especially those of a pound or two. The really large ones are less likely to put on an aerial show. Rarely 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 difference.

It is obvious that no fish, however game, can give an angler any real sport if taken on gear too heavy for the fish. What fun is there in taking 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 chance to show what he can do; it's like pitting the good little man against the good big man—he hasn'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 suckers 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 a 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 tried. Steel rods are too heavy, too stiff and rust too quickly in our humid climate however well cared for. The line need not be an expensive one; a size D level nylon line will do the job.

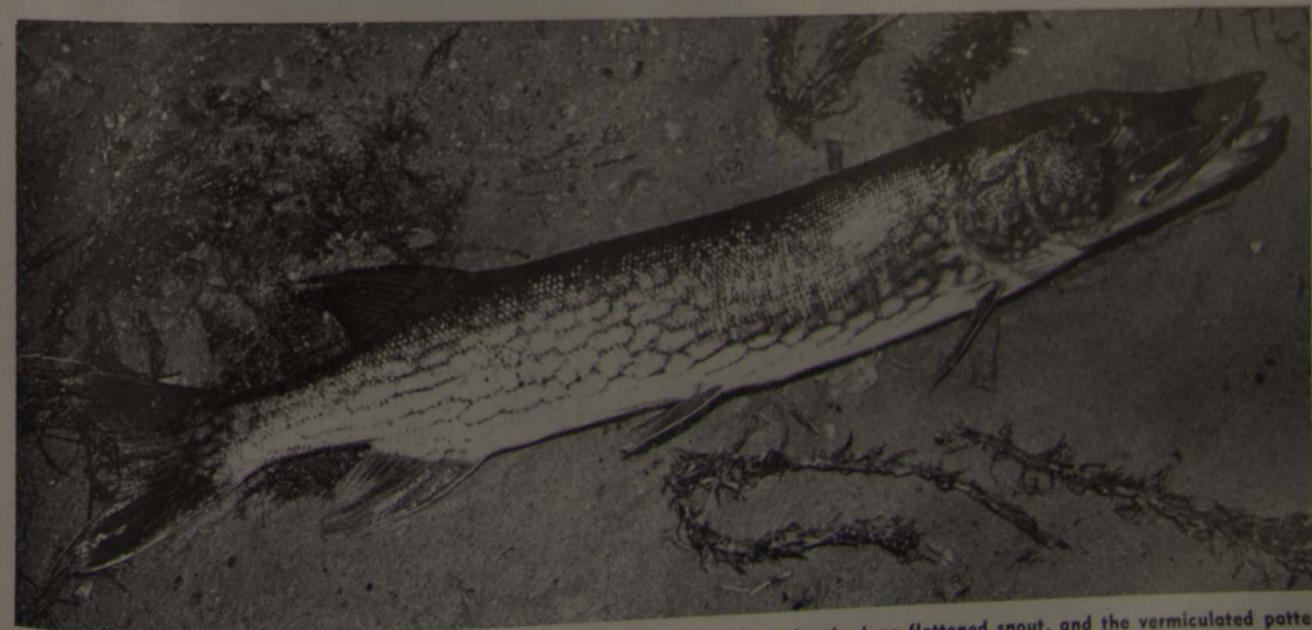
If you want a line that will give you more distance and handle better in the wind get a forward-taper (torpedo-head) line. These lines are made with a short forward taper, a heavy belly to give needed casting weight and a light "running line" on the rear end. They are better—no doubt about that—but they cost several times as much and offer but little advantage for pickerel fishing. Pickerel are not line-shy 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 large mouth like his cousins the muskellunge and northern pike and often will engulf the fly and several inches of leader so protect yourself. You will not mind losing the pickerel but you might resent his taking your good fly away with him.

The *modus operandi*? Ease along in your boat or

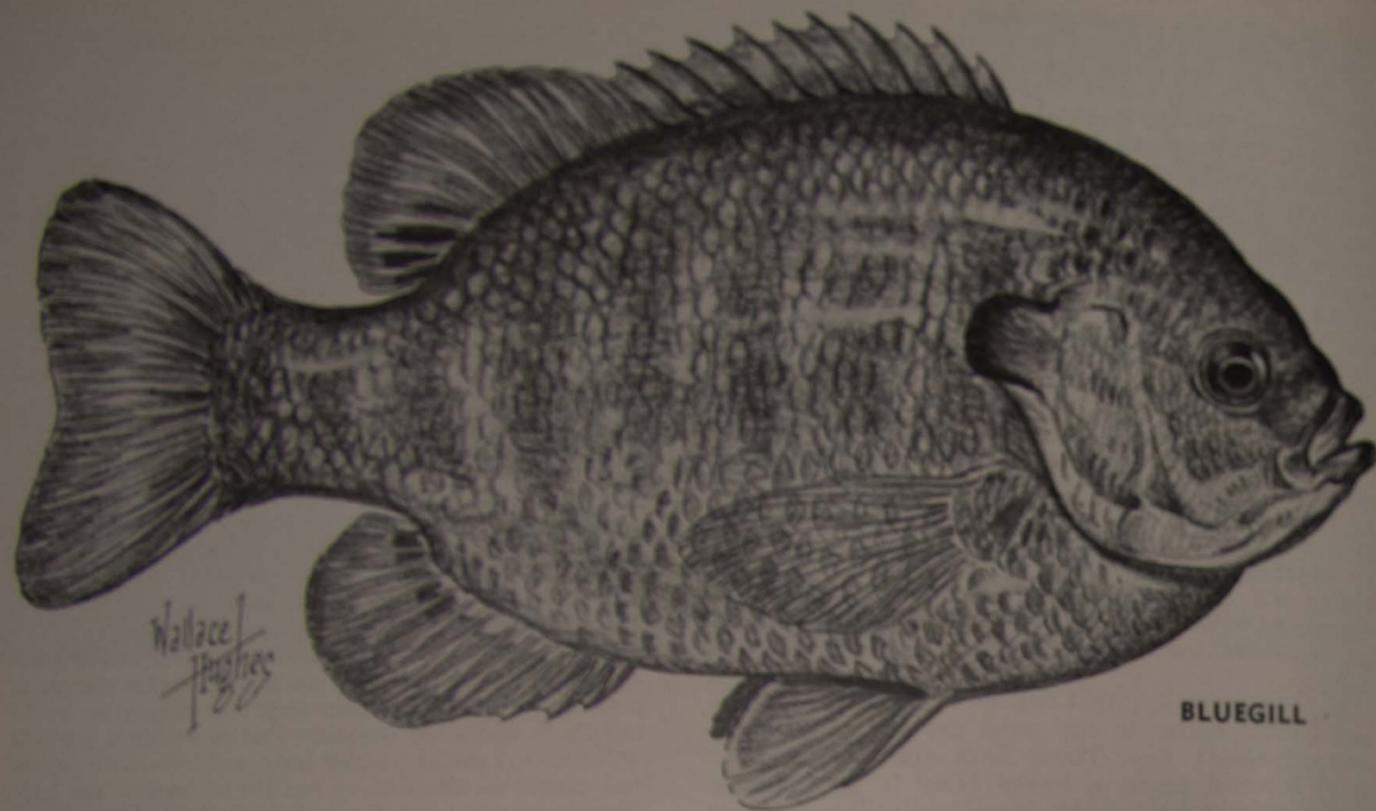
wade along shore to within casting distance of lily pads or grassy patches. Drop your fly and let it sink a few inches or feet depending on depth of water, how bright the sun may be or how warm or cold the water. These factors govern the depth at which pickerel lie. Then twitch the fly along slowly in eccentric jerks, making it dart as minnows swim when going about their business, stripping in the line with your left hand while the right activates the fly through the rod tip. Let the slack line fall on the water or the bottom of the boat but have it treated so it will float. A floating line is a real advantage when you have to pick up your fly to avoid snagging a pad or other obstruction. At times you will not work your fly more than a yard or two and then pick it 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 spin-fishermen must pass up for fear of getting snagged.

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 Finn, with its silver body, red tail and red wing with a yellow center is my first choice. In second place I would put a large Yellow Marabou with silver-or gold-ribbed black body and a red throat hackle. In show position let's just say that any hairwinged or buck-tail fly or feathered streamer that resemble a minnow will suffice. I prefer a silver body, red tail—with yellow tail almost as effective—a red throat hackle and light gray hairwing from the tail of a desert mule deer. If brown is favored the brown from the tail of a young Florida buck is excellent, being finer and more of a chestnut-fawn color than northern deer wear. Some pickerel fly fishermen use small spinners, spoons or wobblers but I do not like them—they seem to be always hitting me in the back of the head! If a spinner is desired as an "attractor"—and one often will greatly increase strikes—use the smallest "willow-leaf" blade on a light fixed shaft. The blade will revolve freely even at the slow speed of retrieve most deadly to pickerel. The three flies illustrated will give you a good idea of what to look for. They run from two inches to four inches in over-all length and are tied on #4 long-

(Continued on Page 30)



The long slender body, the single soft-rayed dorsal fin set well back on the body, the long flattened snout, and the vermiculated pattern of the sides mark the chain pickerel—Florida's "best fish on a fly." —WH—



BLUEGILL

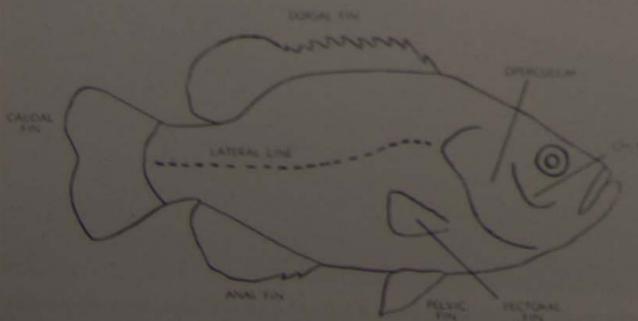
BONNET-WATER

BANTAMWEIGHTS

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 out and out 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 polers 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 its 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 for the 24 hours following a full feeding. Seasonal changes, particularly in water temperatures, cause considerable difference in feeding habits of fish. Most of the spiny-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 scrapper. 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 blue gill 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.

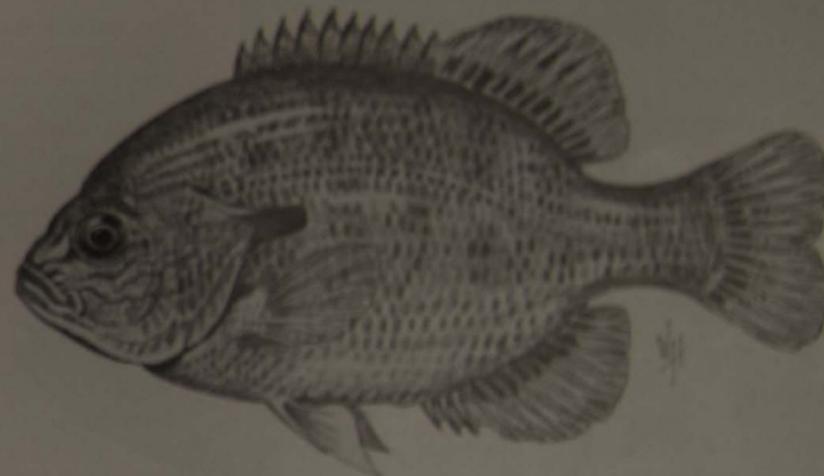
Bluegills, like the other Centrarchids, are considered more or less warm water fish. Optimum conditions consist of fertile waters of moderate temperatures with firm sand and mud bottoms supporting an abundance of aquatic vegetation.

Carrying on the family tradition, the bluegill is a nest builder. The male takes care of the nest building, rooting and fanning 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 youngsters for a short period until they are able to fend for themselves. The male

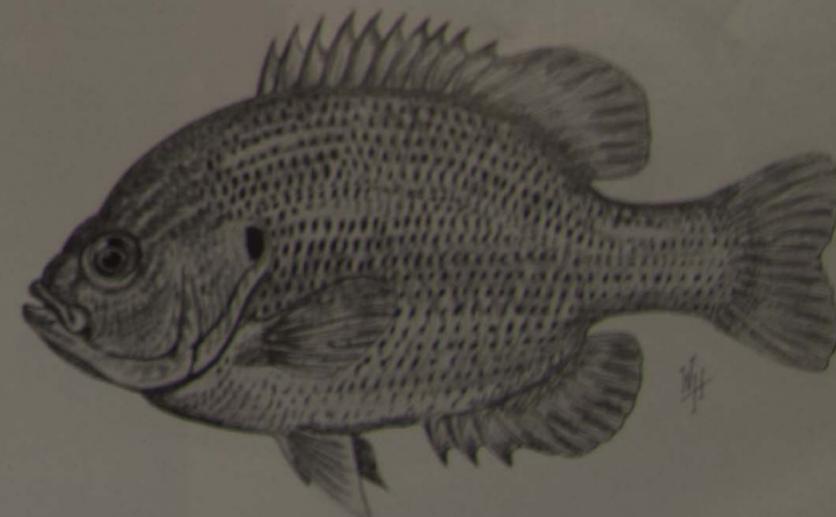
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SHELLCRACKER



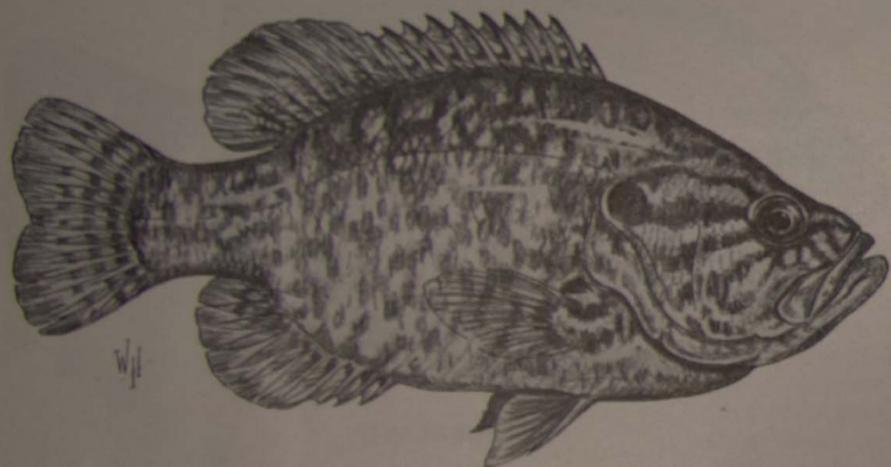
REDBREAST



STUMPKNOCKER



FLYER



WARMOUTH



ROCK BASS

(Continued from Preceding Page)

takes his paternal responsibilities seriously and will dart at any intruder with a great display of pugnacity.

In Florida there are at least 21 species of spiny-rayed fishes. In body form, and often in coloration, many of them closely resemble one another. There are also local variations in color pattern within a species, occasioned by differences in habitat conditions. This situation, coupled with the fact that cases of hybridization between various species of sunfishes, contributes to a general confusion regarding the identification of certain members of the clan.

There are seven spiny-rayed fishes which seem to be the source of most of the confusion to all but the most observant of Florida anglers. A mixed string of two or more of these species will usually be passed off simply as "bream", a name other anglers reserve for the bluegill. These look-alikes are the bluegill, shellcracker, warmouth, flier, rock bass, redbreast, and stumpknocker. Each of these fish have a string of aliases by which they are identified in particular localities. The names bluegill, blue sunfish, blue perch, red-breasted sunfish, and bream, copper nose, dollardee, pumpkinseed, copperbelly, or copperhead may refer to the same fish.

The more readily detectable characteristics of structure upon which is based the scientific separation of the various groups into species offer the angler the means of determining which fish is which. Maybe a sunfish is a bream, period, without the finer points of the situation being of interest to you. Maybe, but most anglers would like to be able to identify their catches as to species. It adds something to the sport of panfish angling to know just what has been taken on a particular fishing excursion.

Here are the identifying characteristics of seven of the common spiny-rayed fishes which may be confusing to many Florida fishermen:

Bluegill, *Lepomis macrochirus*. The coloration of the body varies with the age and sex of the individual. There are usually broad bars on the sides of younger bluegills, normally very light or absent from adults. The older fish often have a copper-hued breast or head. There are 10 spines and 11 or 12 soft rays in the dorsal fin. The anal fin has 3 spines and from 10 to 12 soft rays.

(Continued on Page 42)

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 afield.

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 hyacinth-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.

Flanges on 7-foot diameter wheels permit easy addition of 18" x 38" steel "stepper" platforms, two to each drum. Steppers combined with surface area of big wheels give the big vehicle a remarkable ground pressure of less than 2 pounds per square inch.



The "Swamp Skipper" was first built by Higgins Boat Company of New Orleans in 1946 for use by oil exploration companies, the U. S. Army, and others finding it necessary to operate over difficult terrain.



Above: Oliver is shown emerging from cab which he enlarged so that it can now sleep four people when machine is used for overnight hunting trips into the 'glades.

Below: Oliver (with field glasses) sometimes uses his ponderous vehicle to guide parties into vast Everglades swamp in pursuit of wild boar, deer and bear. New Jersey road builder and sportsman Julius Schlingloff, Jr., stands by with rifle at ready.





Duck concentration in the upper Mississippi area. The Mississippi Flyway contributes birds to western Florida.

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 have been seen 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 lastly, 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 bailiwicks, and if conditions can be improved within their range, 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. Fur-

thermore, 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, these conditions are paramount.

Now 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 their jurisdictions. Techniques have advanced whereby it is now possible to support more ducks per acre than it has been heretofore. Raising of waterfowl foods and making them available is proving one of the most successful methods of keeping waterfowl populations at a much desired high level.

All in all, the Fish and Wildlife Service reports the 1955-56 waterfowl season was the best in the last five years. It would seem in this connection that Florida was somewhat better than average. An excellent nest-

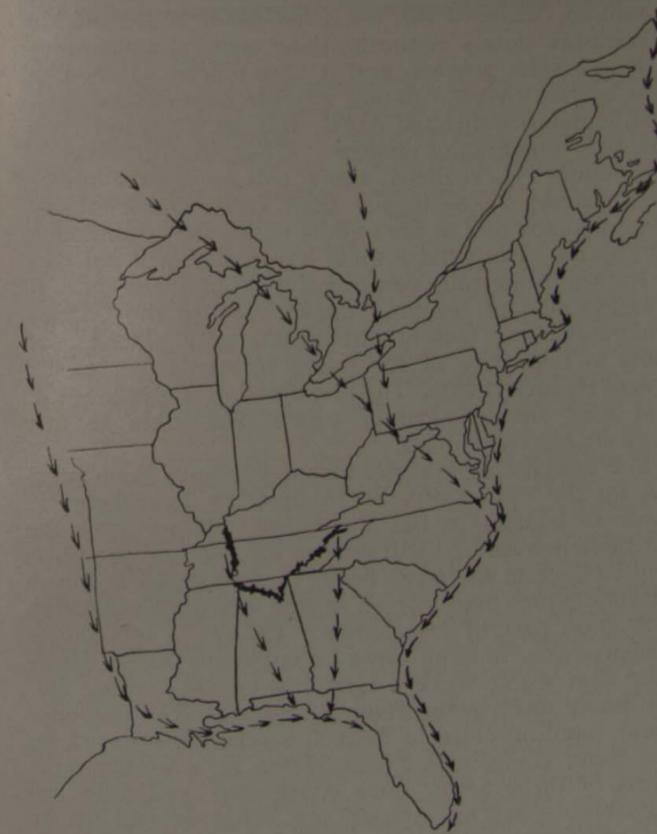
ing season during the Spring of 1955, as reported by Ducks Unlimited of Canada, also added appreciably to the happy state of affairs.

As remarked before, the ducks that populate Florida come mostly from the Mississippi and Atlantic Flyways. The birds that reach this state are in direct proportion to conditions on those two aerial routes. What happens to the ducks after they get down here is a question that will be dealt with later.

Of all the work accomplished by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service with migratory waterfowl in the eastern one-third of the United States, the actual creation of a new flyway is far and away the most important to Florida sportsmen. The new flyway—known as the TVA Flyway—is comparatively only a few years old. It is the brainchild of Dr. Clarence Cottam, one time Acting Chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service and one of the world's foremost aquatic biologists. His idea was carried out with the help of Clark Salyer II, present chief of the Service's refuge system, and several smart refuge managers.

For some years now certain portions of the Mississippi Flyway have been out of circulation as far as waterfowl are concerned by reason of the work of the Army Engineer Corps which has been making a sluiceway out of parts of the river. So much duck habitat has been ruined by dikes and levees the birds can't use large sections of the river any more.

When the TVA came into existence, a series of huge dams was built along the Tennessee River. These dams made a chain of lakes out of a once meandering and gentle river. With the permission 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



The TVA lake chain stretching from Kentucky to Alabama provides a long range cafeteria stretching along the Tennessee River and providing a new sub-flyway which siphons waterfowl into Florida. On the left, the southward pointing arrows indicate the Mississippi Flyway, those on the right the Atlantic flyway.

JUNE, 1956



Blue and snow geese in southern Illinois at Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge. Waterfowl congregate in this area on southward migrations and many of them head down the newly created TVA flyway and eventually arrive in Florida. USF&WS photo by E. P. Hoddon.

along the shore of the man-made lakes. Ducks soon got wind of the fact they had a long range cafeteria stretching along the erstwhile Tennessee River which made their migratory flights pretty easy.

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 air route leads directly toward western 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.

The first question answered, let's take a look at Query No. 2—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 soil bank, which augurs well for wildlife of all kinds. It seems highly probable that some drained lands will be allowed to revert back to marshes.

On top of that, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has quietly embarked on an effective program of re-establishing 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?

First off, improvement of waterfowl areas is given top priority by most of the eastern states when it comes to spending Pittman-Robertson funds. (For those who don't know, these funds come from the tax on sporting arms and ammunition). There are several million dollars still unallotted from this source, and judging from the past record, 70 percent of it will be spent on waterfowl, which shouldn't offend the duck hunter in the least.

Herewith several of the more pertinent examples of what is being done right now to improve waterfowl conditions in the eastern states:

1. A project is underway in Vermont to provide

(Continued on Next Page)



Mattamuskeet country in North Carolina—one of the most famous waterfowl concentration areas on the Atlantic Flyway which contributes to eastern Florida's winter duck population. U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service photo by W. F. Kubichek.

(Continued from Preceding Page)

additional resting and nesting facilities for teal and bluebills that use the Atlantic Flyway.

2. The famous Tuckahoe Marshes of southern New Jersey are getting the full treatment in habitat improvement. So spectacular has been the success of this program that wild swans are actually using the area now. And there are probably citizens of voting age in New Jersey who had never before seen a wild swan in the mosquito state outside of a zoo prior to the recent rehabilitation of the Tuckahoe Marshes.

3. South Carolina is currently in the process of rehabilitating 7,000 acres of old rice fields near Bear Island along the coast. If there is a more suitable layout for waterfowl than a rice field, I've yet to hear about it. The dikes are already completed, and by this fall, ducks will most certainly be using the area.

4. Georgia is going in for the same setup with an 8,500 acre layout, including five islands located amidst abandoned rice fields near the coast. What more could a duck want?

5. Jumping northwestward a bit, the Michigan Department of Conservation is busy helping to develop the newly created Shiwassee National Wildlife Refuge in the Lower Peninsula of that state. This is a cooperative deal with the Fish and Wildlife Service, and most of the birds that use the refuge head directly for the TVA Flyway.

The projects I have outlined are not merely "paper deals." They are actual accomplishments, some of which I've inspected in various stages of construction.

Now for what's going on in Florida.

To add to first hand data obtained on inspection trips, I had long conferences with Fred Cunningham who this winter was appointed manager of all Federal wildlife areas in southern Florida. This takes in most of the refuges except St. Marks on the Gulf Coast near Tallahassee. Cunningham is a top flight expert in the matter of improving habitat for waterfowl. For several years prior to his appointment here, he had charge of Kentucky Woodlands Refuge, the northernmost refuge of the TVA Flyway. It was his job to get the

birds started down the new flyway and keep them coming. He most certainly did just that, to which I can personally attest.

Before being stationed at Kentucky Woodlands, Cunningham was stationed at the fabulous Souris Marsh area in North Dakota along the Canadian Line. What he doesn't know about waterfowl is hardly worth knowing.

As of now there are almost 230,000 acres of Federal wildlife refuges in Florida, most of which support waterfowl. They are scattered all over the state from the northwest Gulf section to the Keys. Two of them have been increased in size during the last eight months.

The fundamental principle in successful waterfowl management says Cunningham, is water control. In that respect the biggest undertaking of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Florida is the development of the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge a few miles inland from the Atlantic Ocean in Palm Beach and Broward Counties. Without a doubt Loxahatchee presents the greatest opportunity for waterfowl improvement in the entire state. Within the confines of this 142,000 acres deep in the Everglades are the makings of one of the most fantastic duck areas in the United States.

That possibility has not become an actuality yet, but it will within a few years. As anyone who knows anything at all about the recent history of Florida is aware, the Glades were subject to destructive drainage for more than 30 years. During that time the vegetation over a wide section slowly changed from a marshland to that of a semi-arid prairie, due to the constantly lowered water table.

The tremendous water control program now nearing completion in the Glades is destined to dike off a million acre hunk and bring it back to its former condition. Most of the work has been done, and the Glades are slowly resuming their original appearance.

It is a slow process, and it hasn't been speeded up any by the virtual drought Florida experienced from last September through April. But, as the water rises, the very topography changes. When the full stage of development is realized, there will be a near-million acre marshy lake—bigger than Lake Okeechobee—almost smack dab in the middle of the lower peninsula of Florida. And what a duck haven that will be!

Nature is getting considerable help from man in this business of bringing ducks back to the Glades. Cunningham is setting out strategically placed food plots to take care of the menu for the expected increase in duck flights. The combination of ample water and food should certainly prove irresistible to any duck in his right mind.

For the past several decades ducks have been passing up the comparatively unappealing Everglades in favor of islands in the Caribbean. Before long the Loxahatchee Refuge will change all that and the birds will be back in the large flocks that wintered in South Florida before man started drying out the Everglades.

A good part of Loxahatchee Refuge is inviolate—designed as a "holding" area for wintering ducks. However that won't work a hardship on sportsmen. Immediately south of the Federal refuge are two immense areas totalling close to 800,000 acres administered by the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Parts of these areas, once considered well nigh impassable except by airboat, are being opened up by the construction of "water trails" for the use of conventional boats. When the two programs jell—completion of the Loxahatchee Refuge and establishment of the state hunting areas—Florida sportsmen will have a setup that will be hard to beat anywhere in America.

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Dear Mister Editor:

It's a good thing sometimes not to be too sure of yourself. We found that out over in Ajax. For many years now the menfolks of our town have been fishing pretty regularly. I should say that the average Ajax male citizen would average about five days a week in either going after fish, getting fish, bringing home fish, or cleaning fish. Add to this the many hours it takes for talking about fishing and the whole kit and kaboodle adds up to almost an entire week given over to nothing but fishing. I don't say this is wrong, Mister Editor; in fact, it is fairly natural, but on the other hand it was only natural to presume that sooner or later some objection was going to be interposed by somebody, somewhere. This opposition popped up in a very unexpected place, among the women. Ordinarily most opposition to the pleasant ways of life comes from preachers or social workers. Some preachers just can't stand to see things going along peaceably. It seems to irritate them and set them to agitating for something different. They don't know themselves what's wrong; what they do know is that when things are going along smooth there is bound to be some sin involved somewhere. To some extent they are like a mother who has a passel of children; if she doesn't hear them making a lot of fuss she figures they are in some kind of mischief. Now it's different with a social worker; these creatures are a breed apart. The thing that made them a social worker was that they were unhappy in their own heart so they studied the subject to find out what was wrong and thereby got a fixation. This leaves them with the desire to stir up people anywhere and everywhere they can find them getting along smooth and easy.

JUNE, 1956

AJAX, FLORIDA

By PLATO WINDER

The womenfolks fooled us, Mister Editor. A fisherman would go home and meet such unfamiliar questions as, "How much longer is this fishing business going on, John?" Or, "Isn't this the fifth time you have been fishing this week, Henry?" Or, "Haven't you had enough fishing for one week, Lester?" Such questions are very disconcerting to a man accustomed to talking fishing, going fishing, and coming from fishing and it wasn't long before our Ajax menfolks began to discuss the querulousness 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 kept getting worse as more and more wives joined 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 at 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 agreed on a plan. 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 for man to do three times as much fishing as he did duty on land. This bare-faced statement formed the base 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 at home. Called in to partake of his evening meal he found everything sloppy and unfit to eat. "What's gone wrong with your cooking?" he asked his helpmeet, and the answer came back bold and sharp, "The Lord provided three times as much water as he did land so no doubt he intended for us to have three times as much water in our stews and gravies as we have been having." And so it went with the coffee the next morning Fishermen began dropping in my store and asking me to keep the coffee pot boiling for them. At home they were getting that three parts water treatment.

As you know, Mister Editor, there isn't anything worse than sloppy grits, sloppy stew, sloppy hash, sloppy pie, sloppy preserves and sloppy coffee. Any one with half an eye could have told who would get the best of this argument. Clearly the time for compromise had arrived. I'm proud to say, Mister Editor, that the good women of Ajax pursue no man beyond his capacity for endurance and so we have established the five-day fishing week in Ajax. With care and a modicum of planning a fisherman can satisfy most of his inner longings in a five-day fishing week and this gives him two days at home in which he has time to speculate on how lucky he is to have a wife who doesn't

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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 these 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 more 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 atop 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**



The wild hogs are captured in specially constructed live traps. Here one is being removed from the trap, a difficult and dangerous task. (Photo by Bob Revels.)



The captured animals are loaded into a pickup for transportation to the holding pens. (Photo by Bob Revels.)



A sow with her litter in one of the holding pens. The hogs are held until a sufficient number have been captured to make a trip to the restocking site worthwhile. (Photo by Bob Revels.)

Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission employees assigned to the hog trapping project treat one of the animals for screw worms prior to release. (Photo by Bob Revels.)



Wildlife Officers Louis Freeman (left) and Tom Shirley have moved these two hogs into the 'glades by airboat and are preparing to release them in the big swamp country. (Miami Daily News Photo by Toby Massey.)



Two hogs head for their new home in the Everglades. This release site is located 20 miles west of Miami near the Tamiami Trail. (Miami Daily News Photo by Toby Massey.)



This hog took a dim view of the proceedings and vented his feeling by charging Wildlife Officer Tom Shirley. (Miami Daily News Photo by Toby Massey.)

"Poor Fish" AREN'T SO DUMB

By JULIUS STURM



WHEN I RECENTLY ran into Hans Looff, a deep-sea diver from the west coast and a close friend of long standing, at Silver Springs, and he opened my eyes to what we might call the lore of the Florida largemouth under attack by the enthusiastic angler, he set my imagination to work upon a rarely considered field of investigation—bass psychology.

To my knowledge there has never been a recorded case of a bass undergoing psychoanalysis because of frustrations and their resulting neuroses. But what I discovered should make a serious fisherman feel the pangs of frustration after years during which he has deluded himself that he has been getting the better of his adversary. The truth of the matter is that the "poor fish" have more brains than we have ever given them credit for—so much more, in fact, that the average largemouth I.Q. is probably higher than that of the fishermen who hunt them, judging by results.

That's a hard pill to chew on, particularly when we come home with a slim catch and the disappointed cook finds she has to rustle up some salmon croquettes when she's been thinking all afternoon about the bass we were going to bring for tonight's dinner. If the thought ever occurred to us that we had been out-smarted by the fish, we never let the wife suspect it. Instead we always have some excuse handy. "It was too cold"—"The wind was blowing from the wrong direction"—"I knew better than to go after bass on a hot afternoon like this." You surely have some ingenious explanations of your own.

Actually, however, the idea that we had come out second best in an intellectual encounter with a largemouth bass has never crossed our minds.

But the aforementioned meeting with the deep-sea diver and the facts of interest to fishermen he had observed in several years of underwater work, started me on the trail of further information. With the assistance of an aqualung (which I was able to use with a fair degree of proficiency in a short time) and the cooperation of an interested bass fisherman who made predetermined casts in selected spots with different artificial lures, I was able to learn several very interesting and informative facts which will be of inestimable value to the proficient bass angler.

The idea that fish are pretty darn smart is one of the principal impressions I carried away from the experiments. We have long accustomed ourselves to

the idea that fish have no brains, and that they always act as they do from a combination of intuition and hunger. Why, I asked myself, shouldn't we investigate fishing from the bass' point of view to test this theory?

That chain of thought turned up some highly practical information.

With an aqualung and a clear lake, where I could see for more than a hundred feet under the water, I watched lures as they landed and the way they moved through the water, and observed the reactions of fish. I could also see the line lying on the surface or leading in the water.

As an ardent disciple of the Florida largemouth, I had accustomed myself to watching for "holes" among lily pads and hyacinths and around stumps where the "big ones" would probably be lurking. Like the majority of casters, my idea was always to place the lure in that hole where it would prove a delectable morsel for my quarry—one which he couldn't or wouldn't pass up.

However, also like most casters, I had never given much thought to what a largemouth might think about either the lure or this particular procedure. But a very few trips under the water—to watch the process from below—startlingly opened my eyes to bass reactions.

If the plug or spoon or fly was irresistible, the bass didn't let it interfere with his haste in getting out of the area whenever the lure landed a foot or so from him. Sometimes he would swim only a short distance, then return for a closer inspection, but a close-landing lure never failed to scare him away.

Another curious reaction was that the largemouth never failed to rush toward a lure which landed about four to six feet away. Of course they didn't always hit it—less than 10% did, in fact—even during those times when the plug or fly or bass bug was allowed to lie perfectly still.

Actually, the percentage of bass which struck the lure after rushing up to it was so small as to be inconsequential—less than 1%, I would estimate. When strikes followed, it was after the lure began to move through the water.

The usual reaction was that bass would follow an underwater bait 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 above 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 immediately scared the bass away.

These facts actually contradict many of the favorite tenets of the above-average fisherman. A lure which you try to land "on his nose" 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, will attract him invariably. A combination of curiosity and hunger is probably responsible for this reaction.

And, no matter what you may have heard or believed about the natural aggressiveness of the Florida largemouth, he's definitely finicky about what he eats. Looking at it from his point of view—which is the one that must ultimately predominate in this situation—if the appearance and movement are natural, then he may

offer at it. But if the movement is all out of proportion to whatever kind of bait it is supposed to represent, then the vibrations it sets up in the water cause a panicking among the fish in the immediate area.

The experiments also showed that the effectiveness of the lure was a strong determining factor in whether or not the bass decided to take the lure. The fact is more important than most anglers imagine, because the magnifying qualities of the water make even the shrewdest line look somewhat suspicious. This is the best argument yet against using a heavy line on the off-chance that you might hook the grandpappy of all bunkers.

From this information, it is clear that the habit of dropping a lure right in a hole among lily-pads or hyacinths is basically wrong if the ultimate idea is to catch bass. Rather, it would seem, the proper procedure would be to lay the plug near a hole. Then retrieve it past the hole or likely looking stump. In this way your chances of a strike are materially strengthened.

Of course there are times, when a bass is hungry enough (though this is unlikely under circumstances generally encountered in Florida), that he will throw caution aside, like the starving man who risks prison by breaking a store window with a brick to steal a loaf of bread. But down here most fishermen make the mistake of underestimating their quarry.

And for that mistake they pay in takes much slimmer than should be expected from the amount of effort expended.

FOR MANY YEARS the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission has seined lakes to eliminate rough fish. And during these operations, the technicians very infrequently fail to find large numbers of bass and pan-fish. And this, in some instances, after fishermen have reported the waters "fished out!"

Not only have these reports been proved erroneous, but the Commission, through a study extended over several years, has been able to estimate reliably that bass anglers are taking less than 20% of the available bass from our waters.

Some years ago Lake Bonny, in Polk County, was the object of just such a seining operation. Over a thousand six-pound bass were tagged and returned to the water. But during the four-year period which followed, less than 200 bass of this size, or larger—less than 20%—had been reported to the Commission.

Now, we can't logically assume that all those big fellows are turning up their noses at the lures offered by bass anglers. Rather, after looking the bait over carefully, they have decided they won't be taken in, literally, by anything which acts so little like natural food.

To even the most dense fisherman—to even those who have no knowledge of statistics—it must be apparent that any given cast in Florida waters must come under the close scrutiny of a large number of bass, even though no actual strikes result. Therefore, the more strikeless casts before getting some action, the more minute the percentage of takers from among those which window-shop our lures.

Can we then fail to assume, as a logical conclusion, that the vast majority of bass are entirely un-fooled by bass fishermen—in effect, they're smarter—and that the ones we do land are from fish with the lower piscatorial I.Q.'s? **END.**

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 of finding latitude and longitude by sextant, chronometer, nautical almanac, Bowditch tables, azimuth tables, the taffrail 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 loran equipment are available. So are the depth finder and radar.

It would be wonderful to afford a depth 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 waterway in safety and with great satisfaction.

There are times when the simple methods outlined here are not necessary and there are times when these methods are vital. My wife and I, under Captain Bob Ferguson of The Mitty of St. Marys, Georgia, spent eleven exciting days in negotiating the waterway from New York to Norfolk. These were eleven October days of fog and mist, the Mitty drew 6½ feet of water, and there was scarcely an hour when we were not searching for buoys. Under these conditions a deviation table is indispensable.

Photos used here were taken during the 15 months that Mrs. Cope, our dog Tammie, and I cruised the waters of Florida in our houseboat The Emissary.

The reader will understand this to be the simplest treatise on navigation we believe possible and no reference is made to seamanship, which takes years to learn and cannot be taught by writings.



Mrs. Cope takes a turn at the wheel of houseboat The Emissary 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 the right direction.

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

A pelorus (dummy 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 latitude scale nearest your position 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 scales for distances. These are correct for distances only on the equator.)

WHERE FOUND?

Navigating equipment can be found at Weems System of Naviga-

tion, Annapolis, Maryland; Bradley Co., Miami, and Wilfrid 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 for the entire area you intend to cover in your trip. A small-scale chart of the entire area gives you the overall 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, steeples, etc., so you may recognize and use them for bearings, and much other useful data shown on the large-scale charts.

An up-to-date inland waterway chart is accurate. The depth of water may have changed since the chart was made or checked but the directions between objects on the chart are correct.

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

CHART this 120 degrees is the TRUE bearing. If you took the bearing with your compass it would likely not be 120 degrees because the compass is only occasionally true. It is pulled away from "true" by the earth's magnetic pole and by the iron and other magnetic metals in your boat. Your chart shows you TRUE directions or courses but you must convert 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 for all compasses in any given area and is shown on all charts in the compass rose like this: Var. 2° E. 1953. Annual decrease 15' E.

The compass error caused by the iron in your boat, the direction it lay when built and by other local factors is called DEVIATION. Deviation of any compass is usually different from all other compasses. And it (deviation) differs on most of its headings. When a compass heads 100 degrees its deviation may be 5 degrees East and when it heads 200 degrees its deviation may be 5 degrees West. That's why you need a table for your compass which tells you the deviation on EVERY heading. (More of this later.)

The combined deviation and variation make up the ERROR of your compass. If you know your error you can allow for it as easily as you allow for your watch's error when it is slow or fast. Compass errors are either East or West and are reckoned in "degrees", marked °.

Let's assume you are starting down the waterway in your boat. You stop at the first buoy. (Call it Number One.) From Number 1 to Number 3 is one-half mile, let us say. The chart says the direction from Number 1 to Number 3 is 165 degrees. This is the TRUE direction or course. If your compass had no error on this route it would read 165°, also. But it DOES have error. The difference between the compass course and the true course is the error. If your compass says the direction between Numbers 1 and 3 buoys is 176°, the compass is 11 degrees wrong because the chart which is right says the course is 165°. Now let's find out if the error is Easterly or Westerly and how much is deviation and how much is variation.

Memorize this sentence! CAN DEAD MEN VOTE TWICE? Now change these words to COMPASS, DEVIATION, MAGNETIC, VARIATION, TRUE.

Reduce them to initials:

C D M V T
176° 17°W 159° 6°E 165°

You know the true course (165°) so put it down under T. The compass course is 176° so put it down under C. Go to the compass rose on the chart 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: "When correcting add Easterly errors." CORRECTING means you are figuring from compass toward true. When you are figuring from true toward compass you are UN-correcting so you subtract Easterly errors. When you are correcting you subtract Westerly errors and when you are un-correcting you add Westerly errors. Simple? Very! All you remember is that 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 (which we are now doing) is subtract Easterly errors. So we take 6° from 165° and that leaves 159°, which is the Magnetic course. Put that down under M. The difference between Magnetic and Compass is the deviation. That would be 17 degrees. Put it down under D. Is it East or West? From M to C is Uncorrecting and from C to M is correcting. Either will give you West as the answer. Let's check. In Uncorrecting we ADD Westerly errors. One hundred fifty-nine plus 17 equals 176. That checks. Now let's do it the other way. From C to M is correcting. In correcting we subtract Westerly



During 15 months of cruising the waters of Florida in The Emissary, the Copes had plenty of opportunity to test the quality of the fishing.

errors. Seventeen from 176 leaves 159. So our deviation is 17 degrees West, our variation is 6 degrees East and our error is 11 degrees West. (Seventeen degrees West minus 6 degrees East equals 11 degrees West.)

So, on the compass heading of 176° we are making a true course of 165 from Number 1 to Number 3 buoys.

Memorize these rules and you have compass corrections at your finger tips: (A) Can Dead Men Vote Twice, (B) When Correcting Add Easterly Errors.

WHY A DEVIATION TABLE?

Suppose the buoys are out of sight? Suppose they are obscured by fog or rain? You can find the TRUE course from the chart but what course do you steer to make good the true course?

You need a table for your own compass showing deviation on each heading. Here's the way to do it:

1. Select a range (two buoys in line) that are shown on the chart. Note their true directions. Let's call it 165°.

2. Let's assume the variation is 6° East.

3. Anchor your boat one-half mile from nearest buoy and in line with both buoys.

4. When your vessel is heading 360° by compass, note how the range buoys bear by compass from your boat. This is done by having the helmsman call out "mark" when the boat's head is on 360°. You, as navigator with your pelorus on 360°, take a bearing of the range buoys as the helmsman calls out "mark." This is the "compass" bearing because the pelorus is set the same as the compass. If the range bearing reads 176° on this heading your deviation is 17° West.

5. The next bearing should be taken when your boat is heading 15° by compass. Change your pelorus to read 15°. Have the helmsman call out when the boat's heading is 15°. Assuming the bearing of the range buoys is 178°, follow the system we learned earlier and we have

Compass Heading	D.	M.	V.	True Bearing	
15°	17°	19°W	6°E	165°	
Now continue.					
Ship's heading	C.B.	D	M	V	T.B.
30	176	17W	159	6E	165
45	174	15W	159	6E	165
60	172	13W	159	6E	165
75	169	10W	159	6E	165
90	168	9W	159	6E	165
105	167	8W	159	6E	165
120	168	9W	159	6E	165

(etc.)

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Make a permanent record of your deviation table and post it close to the steering compass.

Warnings—Be sure your boat is loaded as she will be for sea.

Be sure no metals (knives, wrenches, etc.) are near the compass.

Remember — Deviation changes with the heading of your vessel.

To determine compass course from true course you apply the deviation and variation. For example: if the true course to your next buoy is 165°, and the variation is 6°E and the deviation is 10° West, your compass course is 169°.

Note: Check your deviation table regularly.

BEARINGS.

Bearings are used to tell you where you are. Here are 3 kinds of bearings the navigator needs most:

1. The Cross Bearing. Your boat is moving down the waterway (let's assume) and your compass course is 176°. Your error is 11 degrees West so your true course must be 165°.

Select two objects on shore that are identified on the chart.

Be sure they are at least 30 degrees apart.

Set your pelorus on the same course as your compass (the pelorus should be placed high on the boat so the objects can be seen clearly).

Slow down your boat to bare steerage way.

Have the helmsman call out when he is exactly on the compass course.

Take a bearing of the first object, and write it down.

Take a bearing quickly of the second object and write it down, also. NOTE THE TIME and write it down. (If you are using a taffrail log to tell speed, read the log and write down this figure.)

Correct your compass bearings to true bearings. How? You have 11 degrees Westerly error on the course you are steering, which is 176°. "When correcting add Easterly errors." What do we do with Westerly errors? Subtract them! We correct the compass bearings just as we did the courses.

Assume the compass bearing of the first object was 200° and the compass bearing of the second object was 240°. We subtract 11 degrees from 200° and we get the true bearing of the first object—189°. We do the same with the second bearing. We get 229°.

We are now ready to record the bearings on the chart. Take the parallel rulers and place them on the compass rose on a line from

the exact center of the rose through 189°, which is one of the true bearings. STEP the rulers off carefully to the center of the object of first bearing. Draw a line from the object toward your vessel. Do the same with the second bearing. This was 229 degrees. WHERE THEY CROSS is where you were when the bearings were taken. Mark this spot and write in the TIME. You now have a FIX.

When you are steaming down the waterway in daylight and the buoys are within sight of each other you don't need bearings but when they are miles apart you will need to get your position from this type of bearing. Fogs move in quickly and so do squalls and you are lost if you don't have a very recent fix.

Bearing No. 2. This bearing gives you time to go farther off shore if an obstruction lies on your present course.

Select an object that bears a few degrees on one of your bows.

Set your pelorus on your present compass course.

Set the pointer of the pelorus to 26½ degrees from dead ahead in the direction of the object you have selected.

As your boat approaches this angle (26½°) have the helmsman call out when he is on his course. When the pelorus pointer points directly at the object and the helmsman is on his course, note the time and read the log if you have one.

Set the pelorus pointer to 45 de-



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

grees and when you come on to it, read the log and note the time.

The time, or log and time, will give you the distance you have traveled between the bearings of 26½° and 45°. Figure this up accurately. IT IS THE DISTANCE YOU WILL BE FROM THE OBJECT WHEN IT IS ABEAM (90 degrees) if you stay on the same course.

You still have plenty of time to change course if you are in danger.

Bearing No. 3. This is a very useful bearing. The same object on shore is used for two bearings, taken from different angles, at least 30 degrees apart.

Do not change course between bearings.

Select an object on the chart.

Set your pelorus on your compass course.

Have the helmsman shout when he is on the course.

Take the first bearing and the time (and log reading).

Convert the first compass bearing to the true bearing and draw it on the chart from the object toward the vessel. Draw a longer line than you think you need.

Somewhere on the chart and so that it touches this first line of bearing, draw the true course of your vessel. Make it a longer line than you think you will need.

When there is at least 30 degrees difference between the first and proposed second bearing, take the second compass bearing and read the log, take the time, etc. Convert this bearing to true. Mark it on the chart, drawing it from the object toward the vessel.

From the difference in time and/or log readings, figure how far the vessel has gone between bearings.

From the intersection of the course line with the line of the first bearing, mark off the distance along the course line made good between bearings. Mark this spot.

Place your parallel rulers directly on the line of first bearing where it crosses the course line and move them until they reach the mark you made. Where the parallel rulers touch the mark and the line of the second bearing, there your vessel was at the time of the second bearing. Mark it and the time you were there. You have a fix.

By using these three bearings you can make it down the waterway with ease.

The lead-line is used to tell the depth of the water you are passing

(Continued on Page 31)

STAY-AT-HOME DUCK

MOST MEMBERS of the webfooted clan push southward as the bitter winds of fall foretell the icy grip with which King Winter will soon seal the northerly summering grounds. But even the blue-winged teal, the earliest of fall migrants to yield to the allure of the perpetually open waters of the south, find other waterfowl ahead of them when they arrive on the inland marshes of central and southern Florida. Here, in the marshlands from the general vicinity of Gainesville southward, the Florida duck, a unique segment of our waterfowl population, first sees the light of day. Here it is that the bird lives out its lifespan without once leaving the boundaries of the state.

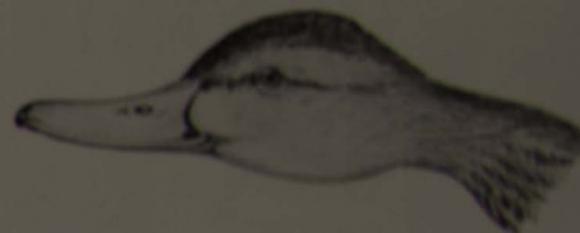
Because of the close resemblance between the Florida duck and certain other members of the waterfowl clan, especially the mottled duck, the female mallard, and the black duck, there has been no little amount of confusion over the identification of this stay-at-home Floridian. Even its true relationship to certain other waterfowl has not been clearly understood until comparatively recently.

Scientifically the Florida duck is known as *Anas fulvigula fulvigula*, a name which expresses the relationship between this bird and a subspecies, the mottled duck, *Anas fulvigula maculosa*, of Louisiana and Texas. There is a considerable break separating the normal ranges of these two ducks. For this reason, despite their similarity of plumage, the geographical location in which a specimen is taken almost certainly will identify the bird in question.

Both the black duck and the mallard hen resemble the Florida duck in general appearance but there are several distinguishing characteristics which demark these species. The head of the Florida duck is a light buffy hue with rather faint streakings of a darker color as contrasted with the mallard hen having a more prominent pattern of head markings, and the much darker, heavily streaked head pattern of the black duck. The colored wing patch or speculum of the Florida duck varies from green with a strong purplish gloss to almost solid purple and is bordered in front and behind with black bars, often with a narrow white line behind. The speculum of the black duck is purplish blue, bordered in front and behind with black bars, and often narrowly tipped behind with white. The speculum of the mallard hen is iridescent purplish blue, bordered in front and behind with black and white bars and inwardly with black.

The non-migratory Florida duck occurs in peninsular Florida from the latitude of Gainesville southward and reaches its greatest abundance in the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee. Specimens have been reported occasionally from the more northerly and western portions of the state. It is a moderately large bird, averaging slightly over two pounds in weight. There is no noticeable variation in size between the male and the female.

Unlike most waterfowl, both sexes show the same general color pattern, resembling somewhat both the black duck and the mallard hen as has already been indicated. In the male Florida duck, the bill is a solid color, tending to be a brilliant yellow. The bill of the female tends toward a darker color, being a dull



FLORIDA DUCK



BLACK DUCK



FEMALE MALLARD

orange or a dark, dull yellow, flecked with dark olive markings.

Most of the mating activity of the Florida duck is concentrated during the month of March, however it may begin as early as the first week in February in some cases. April and early May is the period which sees most of the nesting underway however nesting may occur well into June.

The nest of this species is circular in outline, measures about 10½ inches across and varies from about 1½ to 3½ inches in depth. It is lined with down, grass, or twigs. In the Okeechobee area, where the G&FWFC's Game Management Division conducted a detailed study of the Florida duck, there was shown a preference for tomato fields as nesting sites.

Although the location of Florida duck nests is not dependent upon proximity to water, they are usually within easy reach of it. In the tomato fields where nests were located, water is usually available either between rows themselves or in the larger drainage ditches at the ends of the rows.

The usual number of eggs in a clutch is eight. Judging from the information obtained in the Okeechobee study, the hatchability is high, actually 94 percent in the nests under observation.

Following the nesting season, the adult birds go through a normal post-nuptial molt and become flightless for a period of a few days.

The food habits of the Florida duck are predominantly vegetable in nature, consisting of approximately 87

(Continued on Page 31)

GET 'EM TOGETHER!

By EDMUND McLAURIN

STAND A VALUABLE GUN in a room corner and sooner or later it will get jarred or jostled to an upset. Seemingly, the more prized the firearm the sooner the 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 of sweeping around guns stood 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 planned inclusion of small, inexpensive containers of Silica-Gel or Dri-O-Can, or one of the low-wattage 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.



Above: Modern sheet plywood simplifies the construction of this combination gun and fishing tackle cabinet, and the component parts can be cut out with a power saw and assembled in one evening. Dimensions are 24" wide x 84" high x 17 1/4", to give plenty of room for five or six guns, sights, ammunition, cleaning rods and miscellaneous shooting accessories, plus storage space for major items of fishing tackle. Scaled drawings and assembly instructions are available for 50¢ from the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, Tacoma 2, Washington. Below: This simple cabinet by Norcraft holds up to eight guns safely and securely, at the proper angle to show off their attractively-grained stocks.



Five guns find safe haven in this wide, but shallow Norcraft-designed cabinet that may be screwed to wall studs for sturdy installation. Storing guns in a level position, with barrels slightly down, drains excess oil away from gun stocks and eliminates oil stains. Dimensions are 37"x54"x5 1/2".

Although many gun owners feel that a gun cabinet should be finished to match dark mahogany or walnut home furnishings, natural pine, birch, light mahogany and light maple wood finishes generally give



Although measuring only 40" wide x 69 1/2" high x 11 3/4" deep, this gun cabinet stores up to twelve rifles and shotguns, while the two large storage drawers accommodate smaller miscellaneous items. Coladonato Bros. design.

a more pleasingly contrasting color harmony to home furniture already finished in deeper shades. Also, light stained cabinet interiors give the best contrasting backgrounds for attractively displaying one's guns.

To bring out the true beauty of natural wood, such as knotty pine, and to give it a very light honey tone, a prime coat mixture of equal parts of best grade white and orange shellac is applied. After the prime coat has thoroughly hardened, successive coats of gloss lacquer are applied, with careful hand-rubbing between coats. The final result will be a satin-lustre sheen, beautiful to the eye and luxurious to the touch.

For those who wish to purchase ready-made cabinets, or do their building from pre-cut "assemble it yourself" kits, the following sources of supply will furnish illustrated catalogs giving a wide range of selection and considerable technical information relative to desirable features that should be incorporated in gun cabinets:

Coladonato Bros., P. O. Box 156, Hazleton, Penna.

L. B. Perrin & Sons, 3602 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, Penna.

Norcraft, 462 No. 34th St., Seattle 2, Washington.

Sears, Roebuck & Co., Atlanta, Ga., or current catalog.

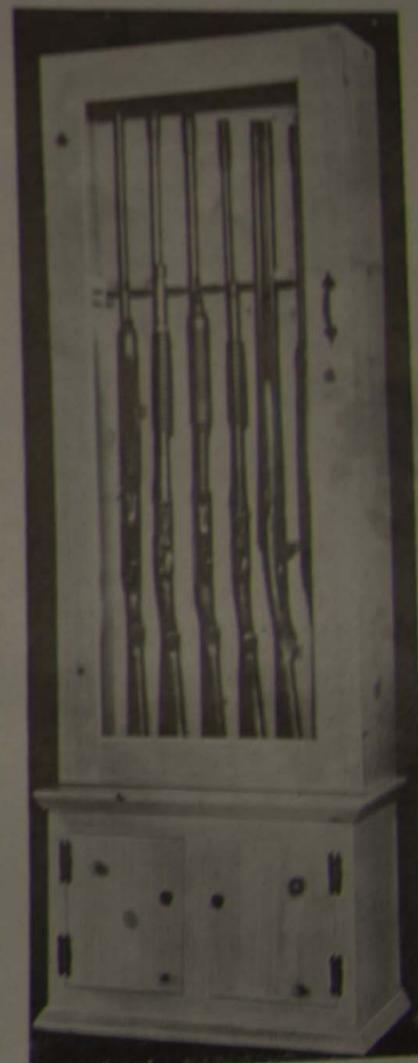
Gray's Gun Cabinets, Box 329 Santa Cruz, California.

Knox Wood Products, Knoxville, Iowa.

Howard Barnhouse Co., Capital Nat. Bank Bldg., Austin, Texas.
Greater Products Co., Millinburg 3, Penna.

Most of the available "do it yourself" kits come with all wood parts pre-cut and sanded, ready for assembly and finishing. Besides specific instructions for professional-appearance assembly, all necessary nails, screw, 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, the commercial cabinet craftsmen explain.

For the home craftsman handy with basic tools, full size or scaled (Continued on Page 42)



For those who do not wish to make their own, this cabinet may be purchased assembled from Sears, Roebuck & Company. It features upright storage of up to six guns, or six fishing rods and up to four guns; decorative wrought metal hardware, and a two door storage compartment.

Bream Fishing ---



By EDDIE FINLAY
South Carolina Wildlife

ALL BABIES ARE beautiful and all big bream weigh a pound. Babies grow faster than most bream but some bream have been known to double their weight within 24 hours after being caught.

The fellow in the picture above committed a major error by weighing his fish. But think how unhappy he would have been if the fish had really weighed two pounds. When he told everyone the bream weighed two pounds—and he'd naturally tell everybody who'd listen—they'd automatically knock off a pound. And he couldn't say the bream weighed over two pounds, for our bream don't grow over two pounds—even in lies.

The technical name of the bream is *Lepomis macrochirus* and in some backward sections of the country they pronounce bream to rhyme with

dream.

Any old-time bream fisherman can tell you how you've got to sneak up on bream, fish from a distance, use a fine leader, etc. About the time you learn to do this you'll see some fellow stamp up to the bank, splash in a heavy line, sinker, and float and start catching bream. However, it's more fun if you think it's hard.

The most common method of fishing for bream is with a light cork or quill but some good fishermen using a flyrod do away with the float and sinker entirely, the floating line acting as a float and the bait sinking slowly and naturally. And some spin fishermen just pinch

on a split shot about 18 inches above the hook and fish on the bottom, if there are not too many snags.

Bream are supposed to bed on the full moon but some of them must have out-of-date almanacs and bed at other times. Most people catch most bream on the beds, not because the bream are readier to bite but because more of them are congregated together.

The fisheries biologist tells you the bream nests when the water reaches a certain temperature while the bream fisherman tells you they bed when the dogwood blooms. We won't argue about that for maybe the dogwood blooms when the water reaches a certain temperature.

Regardless of how you catch a bream or how you pronounce his name, he's a fine fish—in the water, on your line or in the skillet. END.

FLORIDA'S BEST FISH ON A FLY

(Continued from Page 11)

shank hooks with straight eyes so they can be used behind a spinner if desired. Never try to use flies with "T D" (turned-down) eyes with a spinner—they just won't work. Never forget to keep the fly acting like a minnow, darting here and there in a zig-zag course; pickarel like crippled minnows so let the fly sink a few inches once in a while then bring it back toward the top.

String your pickarel through both lips preferably using the safety-pin type of stringer. They'll die in strung through the gills and we want to keep them alive and healthy until we get ashore. Then we'll scale and scrape each one thoroughly, getting off all the slime. There are some pickarel fans who prefer their fish skinned but I dislike any skinned

fish; the flesh holds together so much better if the skin is intact and holding the whole fish together while cooking. Do not remove any of the fins and under no circumstances cut any slashes along the sides to hasten



"I don't know whether gators will bother a swimmer or not. I've always preferred not to find out."

the cooking process which, incidentally, is frying in plenty of very hot bacon grease or butter. The reason for no side cuts is to prevent making two small bones out of one larger bone—the Y shaped bones along the pickarel's sides which suffice for ribs. The fish should always be cooked "in the round" with no attempt to fillet it, no matter how large. On the plate, the meat should be "picked off the bones" instead of vice versa; if this sounds like a distinction without a difference, make the most of it.

Fished for in a sporting manner, with a fly on a light rod; strung so they stay alive until landed; dressed and scraped as soon as possible and fried in hot bacon fat or butter, our Florida Pickarel—the only "pike" in Florida—is a fish well worth taking—and eating. Inevitably, while fly fishing for pickarel you'll also take some Florida Large-mouths. They will be your free bonus for a fine day's sport. END.

STAY-AT-HOME DUCK

(Continued from Page 27)

percent plant material and 13 percent animal matter. There is a seasonal variation in feeding habits with the result that during the fall and winter seasons the diet is almost 100 percent vegetable matter, dropping to a little more than 60 percent during the summer months.

During the detailed studies of the Florida duck, a total of 75 separate plant species were identified as having been eaten by these birds. There are annual as well as seasonal variations in the kinds of plants eaten. Some of the most important food plants taken by the Florida duck include ragweed, fringleaf paspalum, knotroot bristlegrass, dotted smartweed, redtop panicum, big carpetgrass, and mudbank paspalum.

The animal food, for the most part, consists of various kinds of water beetles and snails.

The Game Management Division has conducted annual population counts since 1948. The figures show a relatively stable population of Florida ducks, calculated to number between 22,400 and 30,000.

Although the Florida duck is restricted in its general distribution to the lower half of the state, it is locally important as a game bird. This is indicated by the fact that in areas where it occurs, it comprises about 10 percent of the total waterfowl kill. Such a take has been estimated to constitute as much as 50 to 60 percent of the total annual population of the species but despite such heavy hunting pressure, the Florida duck population has remained steady, or even slightly increasing, over the years.—MHN— END.

DOWN THE WATERWAY

(Continued from Page 26)

over. The chart tells the depth either in feet or in fathoms (6 feet to a fathom) at mean (average) low water. In a fog, or anytime you cannot see, you must slow the vessel and use the lead.

Compare what the lead says with what the chart says. If the chart says you are in 6 feet of water and your lead says you are in three feet of water you are not where you figured you were. You must anchor until you are able to see. END.

JUNE, 1956

STATE LAND USE AND CONTROL COMMISSION

STATE OF FLORIDA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
TALLAHASSEE

WHEREAS, on March 6, 1956, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund authorized the Governor to appoint a five-member commission to recommend policies and possible legislation for the management of state lands in the public interest, and

WHEREAS, the Trustees agreed that the Commission would embrace the following authority and duties:

1. Be provided by the Trustees with necessary funds to engage the services of adequate engineering and legal assistance, and
2. Make an inventory of all state-owned lands cataloging the same in such a way that their nature and characteristics will be readily understood by the public, and
3. Recommend a plan and policies under which the sale or withholding from sale of state-owned lands by the Trustees can be made most consistent with the public interest, and
4. Recommend a plan and policies under which future state parks and other public facilities may be created from state-owned lands, and
5. Recommend a plan and policies through which the State adequately may regulate dredging and filling of submerged lands and otherwise safeguard the public interest in the use of the State's lakes, rivers, beaches, coastlines and other natural resources, and
6. Recommend a plan and policies for the general preservation and development of Florida's many natural wonders and beauty, and
7. Recommend needed law reform to accomplish the above objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LeRoy Collins, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby:

1. Declare and create the STATE LAND USE AND CONTROL COMMISSION, hereafter referred to as the "Commission" charged with responsibility of fulfilling the duties and exercising the aforesaid powers assigned to it by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. The

Commission shall consist of the following members:

Mercer Brown of St. Petersburg,
J. Ollie Edmunds of DeLand,
Mrs. John R. Parkinson of Daytona Beach,
Richard H. Hunt of Miami,
Mayor C. P. Mason of Pensacola
all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and without salary.

2. Mr. Mercer Brown shall serve as the Commission's tentative chairman and shall call an organizational meeting of the Commission at a time and place convenient to the Chairman and easily accessible to members of the Commission. The Commission shall select those officers it considers necessary and prepare those by-laws it deems advisable to meet its responsibilities under this Executive Order.

3. All State Departments and Agencies of the State of Florida are urged to cooperate with the Commission in its endeavors and to lend the Commission every possible and practical assistance.

4. The Commission shall prepare a budget and work program and submit the same to the Trustees for approval.

5. The Commission shall report to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund semi-annually and at such other times as said Trustees may desire as to its activities, progress and recommendations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 28th day of March, A. D. 1956.

LeRoy Collins
Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR, ATTEST

P. A. Gray

Secretary of State

CONSERVATION AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

By PAUL A. HERBERT

Vice President, National Wildlife Federation

ONE REASON why the United States enjoys the highest standard of living among nations of the world is because we were and still are blessed with a bounteous supply of desirable natural resources—climate, soils, waters, minerals, forests and wildlife.

However, most of these resources have to be harvested, processed, and distributed by man before they benefit the health, wealth, and contentment of the people. So, in the final analysis, we owe our present prosperity to the energy and wisdom of past and present inhabitants of this country who by their activities have taken the raw, natural wealth and transformed it into that which we can enjoy and use.

It is an inherent trait of normal human beings, as well as of animals, that they will exert themselves more when they, or those near and dear to them, profit by each additional effort expended. The harder you work, the more you earn. It was partly because of this characteristic of man that this nation was founded, largely on the basis of private enterprise and private ownership of the nation's natural resources with such safeguards as are necessary from time to time so that these resources would be used widely at all time for all people.

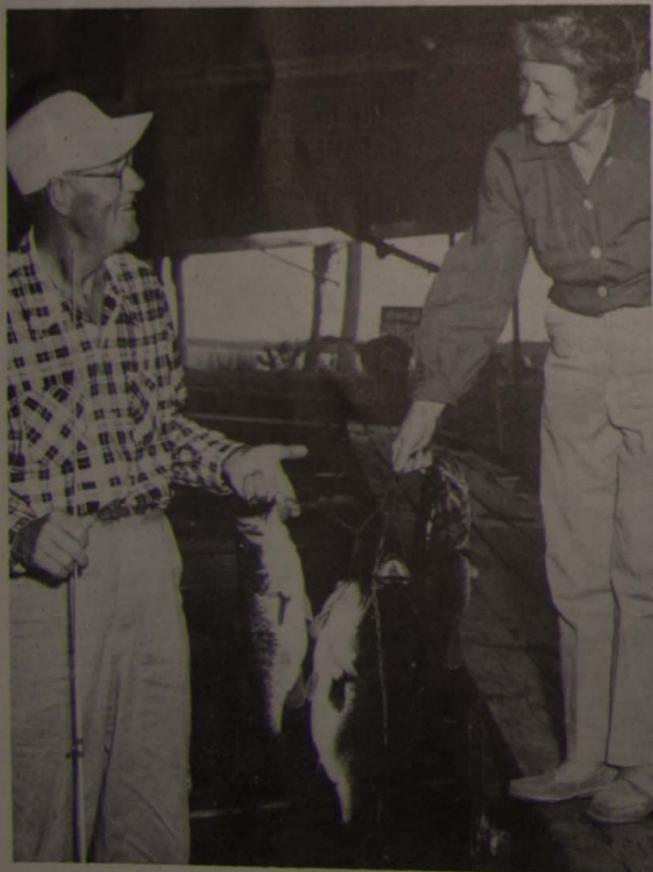
Unfortunately, because of the lack of adequate safeguards, there have been occasional, and indeed even

flagrant, misuses, of these natural resources. So some of our people now believe that conservation requires public ownership of all resources.

The writer believes that the trend of the last half century to retain and reacquire title to many of the natural resources, such as forests for wood production, will decrease the effectiveness of human effort in making them available for use and enjoyment at least cost in the future. Human nature being what it is, it probably will never exert itself to the utmost if it is not rewarded for each additional unit of effort applied. Such a reward does not seem possible under public ownership.

The well being of this nation often will be served best and conservation will be practiced to the fullest by the system of private enterprise, under which this country arrived at its present high standard of living. Public safeguards, not public ownership, generally will do more to insure continual natural prosperity and a bounteous supply of natural resources necessary for our material well being. Obviously, there are disadvantages in self-seeking private initiative and there are many exceptions where to safeguard a resource public ownership now seems imperative.

END.



Mr. and Mrs. James H. Heath of Toms River, N. J., with four nice largemouths taken during a recent trip to the "Bass Capital" area near Crescent City. —BH—

BOYS WILL BE PRESIDENTS

From THE FISHERMAN Magazine

WHAT IS A boy? 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 may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried on depends on him. Even if you make leagues and treaties, he will have to manage them. He is going to sit at your desk in the Senate and occupy your place on the Supreme Court bench. He is going to move in and take over your prisons, churches, universities and corporations. 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 cities. Right now the future President of the United States is playing marbles, and the most famous actor of his day is complaining because he does not 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 after all you were a grand and noble hero or a blatherskite. It is the boy who will amend your rules, alter your creeds, laugh at your mistakes. He may think kindly of you and say you did the best you could, or he may not. Watch your step. All your work is for him, and the fate of the nation and of humanity is in his hands.

So it might be well to pay him some attention.

The above editorial first appeared in the Optimist Magazine. It seems to be in keeping with the advent of spring and thought of youthful, barefoot fishermen.

However, we would like to continue where it left off, proudly plugging our favorite product—fishing. What more profitable and gratifying attention can you shower on a youngster than to place a reasonably priced fishing outfit in his hands and utter the magic words, "Let's go fishing!"? These words are often the key which opens the gate to sportsmanship, to an understanding of the ways of nature, and to an appreciation of the out-of-doors. You are his guide, the person to whom he will turn for advice and answers, the person he will look up to as an example of a sportsman.

This spring—all you fathers, uncles, grandfathers, and brothers—don't sit back and wait for somebody else to do it. Take your child or the neighbor boy on a little fishing jaunt instead of complacently agreeing with the "take a boy fishing" slogan and resting on your laurels. 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 by 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.

SPORTSMANSHIP

By I. T. QUINN

From VIRGINIA WILDLIFE

EVERYWHERE you go, you hear hunters and fishermen referred to as sportsmen. Are they? Not all of them are. Webster defines the word "sportsman" as "One who in sports is fair and generous; one who has recourse to nothing illegitimate; a good loser and a graceful winner."

How many hunters and fishermen of your acquaintance are unfair to their fellow hunters and fishermen? Did you ever shoot quail with anyone who was a good claimer? If you have done much hunting, you have. Did you ever fish with anyone who, because he was not catching a lot of fish, complained that they all had been caught and that the game commission was not doing its duty?

Did you ever think that because the brace of dogs over which you were hunting on a particular day were not finding birds that it might be (a) because they were not first class bird dogs, (b) because the dogs were handicapped by reason of the fact they had never hunted the area before, (c) because weather conditions were not conducive to an adequate diffusion of bird scent while they were feeding, (d) because the type of farming in the fields where you hunted had driven the birds out of the fields and into the woods, (e) because the bird environment had completely changed since you last hunted these fields, (f) because the dogs were not being properly handled, (g) because just maybe it was an "off day" or one of many other untoward things that had happened?

Perhaps your hunting companion said that if the

game commission lived up to its obligation it would have planted brood stock in those fields, never thinking for a moment that if the native quail could not survive there, neither could pen raised birds.

A hunting and fishing license is not necessarily a badge of sportsmanship. A license to hunt or fish is not a right; it is a privilege. A license does give anyone the right to go upon the lands of another to hunt or to fish in another's private waters. There are those who say that if the state requires one to purchase a hunting or fishing license that the state should furnish such person a place to hunt and fish. By the same token, if the state requires you to buy a marriage license, then the state should by the same token furnish the bride—eh?

If a hunter or fisherman is out mainly to put meat on the table, then I do not think he is a sportsman—rather, he is just another meat hunter. If a hunter takes two or more deer in one season where the law says one shall be the limit, he is a meat hunter, a violator and not a sportsman.

A membership card in a game and fish club, in an Izaak Walton chapter or the Wildlife Federation, is not a guarantee of sportsmanship. It is what you are and not who you are that counts.

I think we are all agreed that a person who hunts or fishes out of season is not a sportsman—he is unfair to you and the game he hunts. He's the type that should be "put under the jail."

I do not believe the out-of-season hunter or fisherman, or one who takes a larger bag of game or creel of fish, or one who never helps to perpetuate game and fish can possibly enjoy hunting and fishing as much as the fellow who conforms to the laws and regulations and who, when he had the opportunity, tries to create a better environment for wildlife.

Won't you take some hunter this season and make a sportsman out of him? I believe he will appreciate it in the days that lie ahead. END.



Tallahassee hunters Charley Roberts (left) and Leiston Rivers admire an 18-pound gobbler killed by Roberts during northwest Florida's recent spring gobbler hunt. —BH—

JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST

(Continued from Page 7)

AROUND THE STATE: PANAMA CITY

At the Annual Banquet of the Bay County Girls' Junior Conservation Club, a ritual team installed the Officers. This is the first time any club has used the ritual which has been recommended by the League to use. The League, last year, in their Annual Meeting, installed their State Officers by using

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the ritual. It was very beautiful and inspiring. We hope that more clubs will use it in the future. If you don't have any copies please write to us and ask for one. If our plans are carried out, perhaps we could have a film made showing the ritual in operation. It could then be shown around the State to the various clubs.

OCALA

The Deane Mather Club has just come out with a certificate to be presented to those who have been recognized for outstanding service in the field of Conservation. It is very attractive with a palm tree and an egret in the upper corner. Design and lettering is in black and white.

The Girls' unit is coming along splendidly. There are seventeen in the Club. Mrs. J. L. DeBary is their Advisor and Mrs. Gene Gallant and Mrs. Ella May Buchanan are also helping out. Girls in the club are: Pauletta Erwin, Lillie Buchanan, Juanita DeBary, Sonia Poole, Zona Poole, Jeanie Teuton, Donna Burns, Norma Burns, Betty Mathers, Nancy Mathers, Ann Alford, Bettys Nustin, Peggy Dayals, LaVal McCullough.

All of their per capita dues have been paid. Good luck girls and that goes for the Advisors too, of course.

SUMMER CAMP SESSIONS

By the time you receive this issue of the magazine, our Camp will be getting under way. Our first week this year will be exclusively for girls in the various clubs throughout the State. The date set for them is June 10-16. The following week is the Fifth Annual Conference Week. The week assigned for Conference is June 17-23. During this week, reports from the committees will be given and meetings of the new Board and the outgoing Board will be held. The big event is the election of Officers for 1956-57. Only those clubs who are affiliated with the League will be allowed to vote. Dues must be paid in the League and the club 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 automatic representative; and one delegate is selected for each fifty members or fraction thereof. For example, if you have 149 members in your club you are entitled to four members who will represent the club at the conference. One thing most important though is paying your per capita dues. Don't forget 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 should be paid.

A new ruling by the Board of Directors at their quarterly meeting in Panama City imposed the \$.25 per capita dues on all members of clubs regardless of age. This means all members from eight through eighteen are required to pay.

CLEARWATER

Reorganization of the Optimist Club at Clearwater is under way. I recently talked with Mr. Pfost, Principal of the Clearwater Junior High School. I have been told that there are possibly 150 boys who have indicated interest in the Junior Conservation Club Program. Perhaps by the next issue I will be able to tell you more.

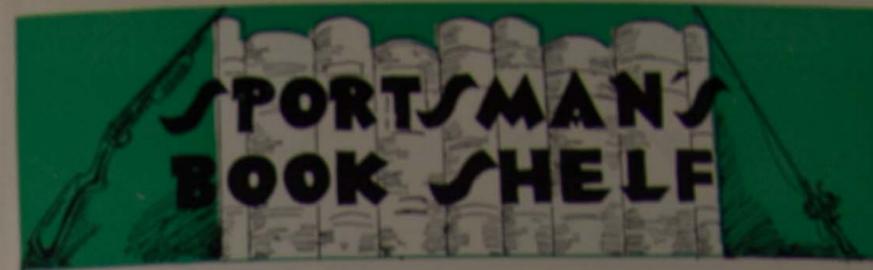
COCOA

At the meeting of the Florida Outdoor Writers Association held in Cocoa, April 13-15, I requested the sum of \$850.00 for a cabin to be so honored and named after the FOWA. The request was placed in the form of a resolution made by Mr. Lou Mussler of Melbourne and presented to the Board of Directors who will present it to the general membership at the annual meeting to be held in Crystal River during the month of June.

The Florida Outdoor Writers in 1953 donated \$200.00 for the construction of the Camp. These men and women are most anxious to assist in whatever way they can, fully believing that to insure our future resources of this country and state is to see that you young people have as much training now in the wise use and management of these natural resources. At this same meeting the Chief of Information and Education invited all of the press to our Camp at Lake Eaton during the week of June 3-9. This will be designated as Press Week. They will be the guests of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Junior Conservation Club League.

APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER CAMP

If some of you have been members of a club that has become inactive for the want of proper leadership and sponsorship, please write to this office and request an application for this year's summer Camp. Don't forget! Perhaps we can reorganize your club this coming fall. You can help by taking back with you as much information as possible. Don't wait. ACT NOW. And for you club members, get your application in but fast. Reservations are coming in much faster than we had predicted. SEE YOU ALL AT CAMP. END.



SUCCESSFUL TRAPPING METHODS by Walter Chansler. Published by D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 250 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N. Y. 151 pages, illustrated with sketches by the author. Price \$3.95.

Walter Chansler is an experienced trapper who has presented in "Successful 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 which 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 the other fellow's methods will find hints and leads which will prove of interest and value.

There are several chapters on the general aspects of trapping—from locating good furbearer territory, prospecting for fur game, equipment, modern trapping methods and devices, tricks and aids, laying out the trapline, set locations, and making sets.

Separate chapters are devoted to the principal furbearing animals of North America with notes on their habits and the most productive methods of trapping. There is a section devoted to skinning and stretching of pelts, the marketing of furs, and tanning of skins for personal use.

The quality of the writing in this book is much superior to the usual trappers' guide. On the other hand, the illustrations leave much to be desired. For the prospective fur trapper, or the experienced hand, "Successful Trapping Methods" is a worth-while guide.

TRAVELS OF WILLIAM BARTRAM, edited by Mark Van Doren. Published by Dover Publications, Inc., 920 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y. 414 pages with 13 illustrations from the original edition. Paperbound edition \$1.95, clothbound edition \$3.95.

Long held in the highest esteem as one of the great source books of

American history, anthropology, and natural history, Bartram's *Travels* is a classic in its field.

William Bartram was the son of John Bartram of Philadelphia, and like his father was a botanist who traveled widely for specimens. The elder Bartram, who incidentally wrote, with William Stork, "A Description of East Florida", established the first botanical garden in America, part of which is now preserved in Philadelphia as a city park. William Bartram's famous book, long a collector's item and valuable not only for its poetry and its narrative but also for its botanical and ethnological record is presented in the present volume without abridgment.

The book contains a detailed account of Bartram's journey through the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida during the 1790's. He gives detailed and vivid reports of the tribal customs of the Creeks, Cherokees, Seminoles, and other southern Indian groups as well as an account of the plants and wildlife he encountered on his memorable journey through the southern Atlantic states.

"Travels of William Bartram" is the source of many hours of pleasurable and informative reading. It forms a background for a fuller understanding and appreciation of the history and natural wonders of Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas.



THE FISHERMAN'S HANDBOOK, 3rd Edition. Published by The Fisherman Press, Oxford, Ohio. 512 pages, illustrated. Paperbound, price \$1.50.

This 3rd edition of *The Fisherman's Handbook* is an even more complete issue of an angler's encyclopedia which was very well received by the nation's fishermen during the past two years.

Its 512 pages are packed with a variety of information of interest and value to the fresh water angler as well as to the salt water sportsman.

There is a "Where to Fish" section devoted to salt water hotspots on the Pacific, Gulf, and Atlantic coasts as well as the Hawaiian Islands, Puerto Rico, Bahamas, Bermuda Islands, and Mexico.

Freshwater hotspots are treated by individual states, territories, and provinces, and there is a listing of license fees, regulations, and names and address of departments from which additional information may be obtained.

There is a detailed and well illustrated section on the four major types of fishing, a thorough treatment of natural baits used in both fresh and salt waters. Fish and fish biology deals with a variety of subjects in that category and includes excellent recognition drawings and descriptions of both fresh water and salt water fishes.

Other sections deal with rods, reels, lines, lures, hooks, and accessories plus a thorough treatment of boats, motors, trailers, outdoor publications, and a variety of other subjects of interest to the fisherman.

The Fisherman's Handbook is an excellent reference publication and is well worth the modest price of \$1.50. END.

The following pamphlets are available without charge from Information and Education, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida, and regional offices at Lakeland, Panama City, Okeechobee, Ocala and Lake City:

- Florida Game Animals
- Snakes Can Kill
- Biennial Report—1953-54
- Summary—Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Regulations
- Identifying Florida Bass
- The Disappearing Panther—Mimeograph
- Ten Commandments of Safety
- 45 Conservation Projects for Organizations
- The American Alligator—Mimeograph
- Are Bobwhite Cafeterias the Answer

FISHING

By CHUCK SCHILLING



NOT LONG AGO, I sat at a meeting of a state conservation society, listening to a talk by one of our leading fish management technicians. As the talk progressed, the subject of Dingell-Johnson Funds was mentioned several times. Sitting just behind me was the president of one of the largest sportmen's clubs in the state. Leaning forward, this man tapped me on the shoulder and asked, "What is Dingell-Johnson?"

I admire the courage of anyone who asks questions to round out his knowledge. Too many of us would rather remain in ignorance than reveal our lack of knowing. I wasn't able to give a very good answer about Dingell-Johnson Funds in a whispered sentence to my inquiring friend. I would like to have answered him like this.

The Dingell-Johnson Act is the most important piece of national legislation ever enacted for the benefit of sports fishermen. This bill became a law on August 9, 1950, and is legally known as The Federal Aid and Fish Restoration Act. It was written and introduced by Representatives Dingell and Johnson and is popularly known by their names.

The Act levies a 10% excise tax on fishing rods and reels, creels, and artificial lures, baits, and flies. This tax is paid into the federal government by the manufacturers of these items on their wholesale selling price. The Act is administered by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, whose approval must be sought by the individual states on any proposed project "designed to improve sports fishing." Such programs, when approved, are paid for at a 3-to-1 ratio. Dingell-Johnson Funds put up \$3 for every \$1 put up by the state.

The amount of Dingell-Johnson Funds available to the states depends on the total amount collected. To provide a fair distribution of these federal funds, each state's share is based on the number of fishing license holders of that state compared to the total number in all

states and the ratio of each state's area to the area of the entire country. The Act is so designed that no one state can receive more than 5% of the total collected from all states or less than 1% of that same total.

On this basis, it is not hard to understand why Florida so badly needs a cane pole license, and it is, also, easy to see how a salt water fishing license would be of further great benefit. Dingell-Johnson Funds are the basis of most of the work projects now in progress designed to improve our fishing. These include all the research projects, rough fish control measures, hyacinth eradication, weed and water control, and studies. Dingell-Johnson Funds, made available to the state game commissions on a 3-to-1 basis, are the lifeblood of most fish management, fish restoration, and sports fishing improvement programs.

It is interesting to know that the fishing tackle industry, thru their own organization of fishing tackle manufacturers, voluntarily suggested this national legislation. It is one of the rare instances where an industry voluntarily taxed itself in an effort to provide a larger field of activity for its customers.

In the year ending June 30, 1955, the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission had sold a total of 370,896 fishing licenses. Nineteen

Federal Aid (DJ) Fisheries projects now being conducted in Florida:

- Lake and Stream Survey
- Fish Management Investigations
- Striped Bass Investigation
- River Basin Fisheries Investigation
- Everglades Impoundment Fisheries Investigations

other states sold more than Florida. The top 4 states all sold well over 1,000,000 fishing licenses. The State of California, which has a salt water fishing license, sold 1,285,980 fishing licenses and, of course, received a Dingell-Johnson allotment based on that figure.

In professional conservation and game management circles, Dingell-Johnson is usually familiarly referred to by the initials, D-J, but by whatever name it's called, it's a major blessing to all anglers.

The sportsman who keeps up with the news, also sees frequent mention of The Sports Fishing Institute, and while we are on the subject of conservation agencies, let's take a look at this one. The same fishing tackle manufacturers' association, who voluntarily set up the Dingell-Johnson Act, did a little further soul searching and organized the Sports Fishing Institute. They chose the late Dr. R. W. Eschmeyer to head the Institute and financed the project by voluntary contributions from their own ranks.

The Sports Fishing Institute has as its prime goal the improvement of sports fishing. It is a fish conservation agency, not an organization to promote the sale of fishing tackle. In their effort to improve the nation's fishing potential, the Institute gives research grants and graduate fellowships to stimulate needed fishery research and to assist in the training of fishery students. Many such grants have been given to the nation's universities and colleges as well as to state fish and game commissions and national conservation organizations, such as, the Isaac Walton League and the Boy Scouts of America.

At present, the major efforts of the Sports Fishing Institute are directed toward fish conservation education. Toward this end, they publish a Sports Fishing Bulletin monthly. This goes to fish and game commissions and commissioners, conservation workers and officers, outdoor

writers, radio and TV sportscasters, sportsmen's clubs, conservation agencies, U. S. senators and congressmen, governors and lieutenant governors.

The Bulletin is a summary of the most recent developments in fish management, research, and application, and its contents are widely reprinted and quoted. The purpose of the Sports Fishing Institute was rather neatly put by one of its founders. While speaking of the need to help preserve the nation's fishing, he said, "We've milked the cow long enough. Now it's time to feed her."

So there you have it—two names in sports fishing that mean a lot to the angler and deserve to be better understood.

The one thing that would help Florida fishing most at this time is more fresh water. The one thing that is most apt to bring our lakes and rivers back to normal is a good, old-fashioned hurricane.

It seems to me that for the past 20 years or so, I've been hearing schemes about how to keep the big blows from hitting our state. I've heard of Dry Ice seeding and small atomic bombs mentioned in this connection. How about some ideas from you readers on ways and means to get one of next year's hurricanes to HIT Florida? The way it has been going, New England is getting all our hurricane water and, from a few things I've heard, they've had about enough of it.

The U. S. Army Engineers have been so busy working at their Florida Flood Control project, they probably haven't noticed how dry it's been. Perhaps they have some ideas on how to win hurricanes and influence water levels.

As a suggestion to the Army boys about how to get some water, why not send a tug down to the antarctic and tow a big iceberg back? It could be parked at various spots off our coast and fresh water siphoned into our various lakes from it.

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

Miami would, undoubtedly, be the first to put in an order for several of the economy size bergs if the fad caught on. They could tow a couple of big icebergs into Biscayne Bay, stop up all the outlets, and soon have a cold, fresh water lake. It would be a natural for smallmouth bass and rainbow trout.

Who knows—perhaps Arctic Grayling as well.

END.

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 Organization to be used for the Junior Conservation Youth Camp sponsored by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

The Florida Federation added \$300. 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 gigning of roe snook being carried on in the canals around Everglades City. It is hoped that the combined efforts of Outdoor Writer Allen Corson, The Collier County Conservation Club, Director Ernest Mitts of

the Salt Water Conservation Board and the Florida Wildlife Federation will bring a halt to this sport fishing threat.

Memorandums have been mailed to all clubs in the Federation, urging members to outline their ideas on hunting regulations in order that a complete dossier be ready for the Game Commission's annual hunting rules and regulation meeting to be held in July.

Questionnaires should be completed and promptly returned to Hugh Wilson, Secretary, 23 N.W. 42nd Avenue, Miami.

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:

Resolution—That the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission be urged to appoint a qualified Chief Wildlife Officer to be completely in charge of the Law Enforcement Division.

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

The Federation went on record as approving a salt water fishing license with proceeds to be used for research and development of salt water sport fishing in Florida.

Other items on the agenda included discussions of Tallahassee's plans to build a municipal airport on lands now part of the Apalachicola National Forest and the Game Commission's St. Johns River Resources Study now being conducted in the Welaka-Crescent City area.

A formal protest against the using of National Forest lands for industrial expansion will be made to the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Forest Service.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Mr. Oscar Rawls of the U. S. Army Engineers.

A more complete and detailed report of the April 22nd meeting will appear in the July issue of Florida Wildlife.

END.



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

MEAD WILDLIFE RECIPIES BY ELENA K. MEAD

THINGS 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-outer 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 prepared biscuit mixes with which you can hardly go wrong even if you try.

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

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 biscuits:

BAKING POWDER BISCUITS

(like Mother used to make)

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2½ teaspoonsful baking powder
- ¼ cup shortening
- ½ teaspoonful salt
- ¾ cup milk

Mix the 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 lightly (preferably with a fork) until all flour is moistened. Roll quarter-inch thick on a waxed paper that is liberally covered with flour. Place on slightly-greased pan and bake in hot oven 12 to 15 minutes. Here's a hint: cut them in squares and you won't have to worry about a biscuit cutter. Saves a lot of time, too.

A Kentuckian-turned-Cracker ad-

vises us that if you are ever caught short on a camping trip and find you have nothing in which to bake your biscuit, an old dried gourd will do. North Florida campers take note.

Of course the Boy Scouts have a remedy in case you run into the no-baking-pan situation. They use just a little less liquid in the biscuit dough, then work the dough into narrow, thin strips which they wrap around sticks which have been pre-heated, and bake over hot coals; turning often to insure even baking.

Here's another hint—in case you're in a big hurry and the usual process of rolling, cutting, and baking takes too much time, use a little less flour than the above recipe calls for, and instead of rolling out, pour the whole batch into a greased baking pan and bake like a cake. Just be careful you don't get it too thick in the middle. When it's done, break it off in chunks. *Do Not Cut it.*

To make real crunchy and good, drop batter by spoonsful on a greased pan and bake. Once you've fixed it this way, chances are you'll throw



"Now if anyone's forgotten anything it's just too bad for them."

away your biscuit cutter—even at home.

And from that same Kentucky boy, we got another good camp bread recipe which we recount for you here.

FRIED CORN BREAD

(generally called hoe-cake)

- 2 cups yellow corn meal
- 3 teaspoonsful baking powder
- 1 teaspoonful salt
- 2 cups milk
- ½ cup cold water.

Mix together the dry ingredients, then add milk and water. Mixture should be thin enough to pour. Heat an iron skillet and put in enough bacon fryings to give it a good coating of grease. Then pour cakes in skillet. Brown good, turn once, finish cooking, and serve. Good hot or cold. Just tried out a batch in my own kitchen and they are GOOD!

Of course you can floss up this recipe a bit if you like. Cut the corn meal down a half cup and add ½ cup of white flour instead. Also add an egg if you like, a little sugar, and a little melted fat. By then you have hoe-cake de luxe. In fact, you have a real corn bread mixture which can either be baked or fried. Mighty good eating with fried fish.

Of course, you old-timers have already discovered that anything you bake in an oven can be baked equally good in your iron skillet. Just remember to have a tight lid for baking (especially biscuit and corn bread) to hold the heat in, bake quicker, and make biscuit rise better. Just bury the skillet in a bed of hot coals and watch those biscuits pop up. END.

WILDLIFE QUIZ

By PEARL TIMSON

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

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

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

AJAX, FLORIDA

(Continued from Page 19)

require his presence for more than two days a week.

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 a total of two days per week. A few citizens prefer to rush in for an hour now and then and then rush back to their fishing but those of deeper insight prefer the two days hand-running. As Lester Keith remarked after trying it out both ways, "Seems like I enjoy myself more out fishing after I been home two days with my wife pecking on my bones."

Respectfully,
Plato Winder, Storekeeper
Ajax, Florida

CARE AND FEEDING OF FATHERS

(Continued from Page 5)

Suppose pop comes in from this fabulous fishing trip at the aforementioned late hour and has, perchance, filled the tub with various and sundry fish. If that be true, the whole modus operandi changes. You can tell him all the bad news you want to. Treat him the way you do the other 364 days of the year. And let the kids wake him up at three o'clock in the morning if they like. He'll be so happy about his angling bonanza that he'll put up with anything.

But it will all be over. Father will have had his day. And you—mom and the youngsters—will have earned an additional star in your crown for the real jim-dandy way you learned your lesson on "the care and feeding of fathers."

By the way, just to show you I don't always practice what I preach, I've made plans to take the whole family fishing with me this weekend. Seems we're going down to Kure Beach to see what Bill Robertson has to offer in the way of pier fishing, flounder gigging, surfcasting, sunbathing—or anything else he suggests. And if you fathers are wondering why I'm taking on all this family load on my day, you see, I sneaked off on Mother's Day and went fishing by myself. Like they say—be sure your sins will find you out. END.

JUNE, 1956

dog chatter

By GEORGE CROWLEY

Breed History

ONE OF THE MOST interesting studies for dog lovers is the history of the various breeds. How they began, where they came from, for what purpose they were bred—all make fascinating and, at times, exciting reading.

For instance, disaster played a large part in introducing the Pekingese and the Chesapeake Bay Retriever to the general public. In ancient China the Pekingese was sacred. The oldest strains of the breed, believed to have been started in the eighth century, were owned only 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 looted the Imperial Palace at Peking in 1860. The soldiers found the bodies of the dead Pekingese scattered throughout the palace, apparently killed by the Chinese so they wouldn't fall into "unclean" hands. Four of the little dogs were found alive but frightened, hiding behind some draperies.

They were taken back to England and one was presented to Queen Victoria. 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, owes his existence as a separate breed to a shipwreck. In 1807 an English brig was wrecked off the coast of Maryland. Its crew and two Newfoundland puppies were rescued by American sailors. Upon landing the British sailors presented 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 to either the flat or curly coated retrievers which had been brought over from Europe.

Anyway, in 1885 a definite type of dog was developed and the breed soon became known throughout the world for their feats in the rough waters of Chesapeake Bay, where they often retrieved up to 300 ducks in one day. END.

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

Florida Caverns Golf Course at Marianna, Fla., is the only State-owned and State-operated golf course in Florida.

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Salt Water Sportsman

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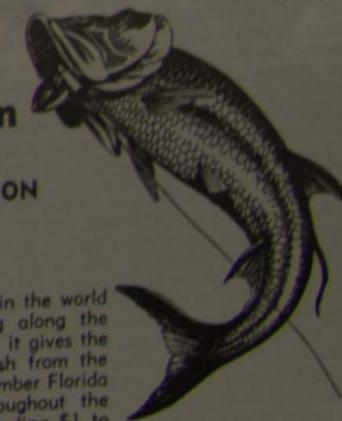
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Salt Water Sportsman is the only magazine in the world devoted 100% to salt water sport fishing along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Published monthly, it gives the latest on where to, when to and how to fish from the Maritimes to the Bahamas. The special December Florida issue covers marine angling in detail throughout the state. Start receiving your copies now by sending \$1 to

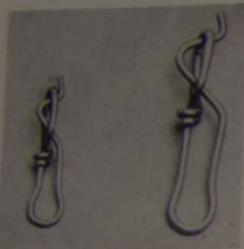
SALT WATER SPORTSMAN

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FLORIDA WILDLIFE FIELD TESTS AND TELLS



ANYONE who fishes to any extent in Florida waters knows of Ted Henson—either through fortunate personal association or by reputation; Henson, a resident Floridian and fishing tackle manufacturers' representative, is a former national casting champion and an active angler who really knows how to rig tackle and use it productively. As a volunteer instructor for various casting colleges and fishing technique clinics, Henson has taught hundreds of persons his secrets of successful angling, and, personally, has conducted a continuous series of experiments to learn more about Florida's fresh and salt water game fish and dependable ways of enticing them to bite baits.

His latest contribution to fishing—especially to Florida fishing—is the "Henson Hitch," a nib and loop snap fastener that represents the first major change in the basic design of terminal tackle snap fasteners in more than thirty years. The new "Henson Hitch" gives anglers a quick-change lure fastener that is simple, positive, rustproof and inexpensive.

Material used is 18-8 stainless steel, for maximum strength and corrosion-free use. Independent laboratory strength tests, and Florida-conducted tests by FWFT&T, prove the new Henson fishing lure attachment the strongest on the market. Even the tiny fly rod size—which is surprisingly small—carries a breaking strength guarantee of 25 pounds minimum, but actually exceeded that figure in the strain tests conducted by FWFT&T. In the available larger sizes, the spin size stands a strain of 40 pounds or more; the casting size will hold up to 135 pounds of tension, and the heavy duty size will take almost unbelievable punishment. In a dramatic field test, an automobile weighing more than 4,000 pounds was successfully towed with only a single heavy duty (230 lb. guaranteed test) size, length 7/8 inch, "Henson Hitch" linking the towchain between the two cars. To test the new fasteners for resistance to salt water corrosion, FWFT&T submerged all sizes of the "Henson Hitch" snaps in highly concentrated salt solution for weeks without harmful effects.

The working principle is simple and quick. . . . To put a "Henson Hitch" into use, the usual loop is tied in the end of the fishing line or leader, and, with the nib of the "hitch" pressed up, the loop is pushed through the oval on either side of the nib. The loop of line or leader is pressed forward and down until finger (or thumb) being used contacts the nib section. With thumb or working finger on the nib, the loop section of the line or leader is pulled tight, to automatically engage the eye of the "hitch." To disengage, simply repeat the "engaging" procedure, keeping the loop parallel. . . . Actually, you can make the attachment faster than you can read the instructions given here!

The "Henson Hitch" is designed to remain on the lure, to become the strong,

flexible tackle link that fishermen have long sought. The rounded back loop "frees" lures, to "work" with all the action their manufacturers intended. Lures can be changed within seconds; you just work the loop-to-Hitch for the fastest lure change you've ever enjoyed.

The "Henson Hitch" is packaged in clear, red-topped plastic containers, each holding a choice of fifteen fly rod size "hitches"; fourteen of the spin size; twelve of the casting size and nine of the heavy duty—but not mixed—for one price, 39¢. An instruction card, showing you exactly how to use the "Henson Hitch" is furnished by retailers. The low purchase price enables an angler to equip all his lures with the new fasteners at very nominal expense.

If you cannot find the "Henson Hitch" in your local tackle stores, order it direct from HGK Sales Company, 4505 State Line, Kansas City, Missouri.



FWFT&T believes that most Florida fishermen, hunters and boat owners appreciate quality equipment, are conscious of the cash investments represented and take pride from ownership and maintaining it in reliable working condition. For these outdoorsmen, the last means periodic attention to such small, but important, matters as tight line guide rings on all fishing rods, soldered or cemented ferrules, good electrical connections in outboard motor and inboard engine mechanisms and cruiser craft lighting systems, repairing of cracked metal parts and a dozen or more other odd jobs common to proper maintenance of assorted gear used for hunting, fishing, camping and boating.

Soldering jobs are numerous for the man who likes for his outdoor equipment to be in tip-top shape at all times. However, many ordinary electric or blow-torch-heated soldering irons are heavy and unhandy to use in close working quarters, and, as in the case of attempting to replace one or more line guide rings on a fishing rod without disturbing wrappings, frequently conduct too much heat to areas surrounding the spot being soldered. Many specialized jobs require instant, high soldering heat, applied at just the right moment.

For many of their small soldering jobs, Florida sportsmen will find an electric soldering gun ideal. To find the best one on the Florida market, FWFT&T obtained and field and shop-tested four leading makes, rating each on job performance, ease of use, dependable operation and long life.

Especially recommended to Florida sportsmen, small engine mechanics, rod repairmen and model-makers is Sears, Roebuck and Company's #9H5366 "Craftsman" pistol-grip style electric soldering gun in heavy duty, 250-watt size. Tests indicated that the tool, which has a transformer built in its housing, heats up to solder-melting temperature within from 5 to 7 seconds, maintains

its high heat peak all the time the operating trigger is held back and shuts off automatically when the trigger is released, making the soldering gun ideal for intermittent assembly work.

A wide, replaceable, chisel-shaped copper tip gives good heat transfer, and as it operates a tiny spotlight in the soldering gun's housing illuminates the work.

In testing the "Craftsman" #9H5366 soldering gun, and competing brands, FWFT&T rigged up a mechanical contrivance and a numerical counter that would both cut on and off finger switch assemblies every twenty seconds. In the case of the heavy-duty, 250-watt, "Craftsman" gun, the control switch was still operating satisfactorily when the test was discontinued after 8,481 separate and distinct "on" and "off" switch movements—a total of 16,962 backward and forward movements of the trigger mechanism. Nearest rival, made and marketed under a nationally known manufacturer's trademark, made a record of 5,216 complete on-and-off operations, or a total of 10,432 forward and backward movements, but failed to switch on the heating element on the 5,217th try. As stated, the "Craftsman" gun's switch was still operating well when its endurance test was stopped. One would have to use a soldering gun every day for years to equal such torture tests.

The Sears, Roebuck and Company product bears Underwriters' Laboratory approval, and will operate safely on ordinary 110-120-volt, 60-cycle, alternating (common house) current. It comes with a six-foot rubber cord and plug.

In a so-called versatility test, the "Craftsman" soldering gun did a satisfactory job in the assembly of a sheetmetal gutter spout, though its intended and most practical use is for small, quick soldering jobs in tight working areas.

Readers should not confuse the Model 9H5366 with Sears' lighter gun, Model 9H5400, which sells for about a dollar less but performs light soldering jobs only. The Model 9H5366, listing in the catalog for \$9.95, is definitely the most useful of the two and the better buy.

FWFT&T recommends purchasing a supply of four or six extra soldering tips at the time of initial purchase. Carried under the catalog number 9H5403, they sell for two for 37¢. Buying, say, six extra will cost you only \$1.11 (plus postage of 3¢) additional, and give you hundreds of hours of reliable soldering service.

Look up the 9H5366 Sears, Roebuck soldering gun in the firm's big catalog or ask to examine one in the stock of a Florida retail store.



HALF the pleasure of owning a boat is being able to easily, quickly and conveniently transport it to water areas you want to fish or explore via a leisurely cruise.

All sorts of trailers and boat towing devices have been developed to meet the market demand for rigs that will enable the owner of a small boat, be it a rowboat or large outboard cruiser, to transport his craft

behind his car. There are some very good boat trailers on the Florida marine market—along with some very poor ones.

FWFT&T especially likes the Model #1403 "Trailcar" that will easily load and transport craft up to 800 pounds capacity. Both stream and highway tests show that the welded steel, reinforced A-frame "Trailcar" makes launching and re-loading operations matters of a few minutes, and once underway the loaded "Trailcar" can be headed to and from distant waters at your car's regular highway speed. Improved springs and high ground clearance make travel over backwoods roads equally easy.

The "Trailcar" has several unique features among many other good ones. . . . A telescoping pole fore end makes it adjustable for carrying any boat between 12 and 16 feet in length, with motor attached to boat transom. Two rollers at the stern and a cam lever controlled and retractable center keel roller make it a simple operation to roll boats either on or off the "Trailcar." There is an adjustable axle member for proper weight distribution and an adjustable height center keel guide.

Cantilever action coil springs, combined with the stabilizing influence of high speed bearings and neoprene grease seals, assure an even, smooth ride for towed craft. Other features which contribute to wobble-free towing of both small and large boats are adjustable, padded hold-down clamps and a sturdy U-formed winch stand with adjustable height bow rest. The provided, useful geared-winch, equipped with rope and hook, has a positive lock.

The left stern end of the "Trailcar" is fitted with a tail and stop light and trailer-license bracket combination.

The Model #1403-800 pound capacity "Trailcar" is a good investment in boating pleasure, in the opinion of FWFT&T Budget-minded boat owners will find the less expensive Models Nos. 1413 and 1411 good values and readily adaptable to quick installation of various accessories from time to time. However, these standard models take boat weights only up to 500 pounds; the deluxe # 1403, as already stated, has an 800 pound carrying capacity.

Made by "Trailcar," a division of Dunbar-Kaple, Inc., Geneva, Illinois, for which Lyman Rogers, 5114 - 20th Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, is Florida representative.

One of your local marine supply houses should have samples available for inspection and demonstration.

COMING SOON

ANOTHER JUNIOR WILDLIFE PHOTO CONTEST

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

ON PAGE 38

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Magnolia | 8. Cypress |
| 2. Live Oak | 9. Sweetgum |
| 3. Palmetto | 10. Water Oak |
| 4. Sycamore | 11. Royal Palm |
| 5. Mulberry | 12. Gumbolambo |
| 6. Basswood | 13. Slash Pine |
| 7. Coconut | 14. Tulip |

Ducks Unlimited

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES of Ducks Unlimited, the nation's leading migratory waterfowl conservation organization, appropriated \$500,000.00 at their 19th Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri recently, to continue the work of restoring and building duck breeding grounds in the Canadian Prairie Provinces in 1956. This appropriation is the largest ever allocated by Ducks Unlimited, which has accomplished much in behalf of the United States sportsmen who contribute to its support to preserve and encourage the sport of wildfowling which had one of its greatest years during the past season.

With this appropriation of \$500,000.00, the total amount sent to Canada soared to almost \$5,000,000, which duckhunter-sportsmen have contributed to Ducks Unlimited since 1938 for the work of building or restoring more than 400 "duck factories" on the breeding grounds in Canada, where more than 65% of this continent's migratory waterfowl raise their young.

Re-elected president of the organization for his second term was Robert Winthrop of New York, senior partner of Robert Winthrop & Company, one of the nation's oldest banking houses. Other officers re-elected were Robert M. Gaylord, President of the Ingersoll Milling Machine Company, Rockford, Ill., who was returned as Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Vice Presidents Will J. Reid, Long Beach, Calif., Pacific Region; George T. Hansen, Salt Lake City, Utah, West Central Region; Roland M. Hoerr, St. Louis, Mo., Mississippi Region; Philip C. Barney, Hartford, Conn., North Atlantic Region; Edward E. Chandlee, Philadelphia, Pa., Middle Atlantic Region; A. C. Glassell, Shreveport, La., Gulf Region; and Norman H. Ott, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Great Lakes Region. John R. Suman, Houston, Texas was elected Vice President of the newly formed South Central Region. Lou H. Barkhausen of Chicago, Ill., was re-elected Treasurer, and Robert D. Cowen, President of the Monongahela & Ohio Coal Company, Cleveland, Ohio, was returned as Secretary. Re-elected Assistant Treasurers were Clarence E. Stouch and E. Herrick Low, of New York; and re-elected Assistant Secretaries were Robert I. Lowell and H. Dudley Gerard, also of New York. Lawrence J. Durkin, of

Middletown, New Jersey was elected Executive Secretary.

Fifteen Trustees whose terms of office expired this year were re-elected including Will J. Reid, Long Beach, California; Harvey L. Sorenson and Lloyd Stevens of San Francisco, Calif.; Hon. Lawrence C. Phipps, Sr., Denver, Colorado; Louis H. Barkhausen, Chicago, Ill.; A. C. Glassell, Shreveport, La.; Charles G. Chapman, Detroit, Michigan; Henry M. Cook and Roland M. Hoerr, St. Louis, Mo.; Frank L. Taylor, New York; J. P. Levis, Cleveland, Ohio; Robert C. Bishop, Portland, Oregon; R. A. King, Wichita Falls and John R. Suman, of Houston, Texas.

Four new Trustees were elected to office, A. Howard Stebbins, Jr., Little Rock, Arkansas; Judd Pollock of Darien, Conn.; Carsten E. Tiedeman, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.; and A. E. Staley, Decatur, Ill.

Making his report to the Board of Trustees, President Winthrop cited the work accomplished by DU during the past year, stating that some three-quarter million acres are now under water on 403 active Ducks Unlimited projects in the Prairie Provinces, and that the total shoreline mileage surrounding these "duck factories" in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba now exceed 3800 miles.

Winthrop paid a special tribute to the Dominion and Provincial Government Agencies of Canada, as well as its farmer-conservationists for the generous support they have given to Ducks Unlimited's efforts. He also extended his thanks to the state chairmen and their committees, and through them, the sportsmen of their states for making the large grant possible.

The Ducks Unlimited president cited the need of more members to carry the burden of restoring the breeding grounds, pointing out that more than 2,000,000 duck stamps are sold annually, yet less than 30,000 members comprise the membership of DU. He said Western Canada is growing in population and is developing rapidly, and without a strong and militant organization continuously at work in the interests of the ducks, it is a sure bet that other and more material interests of men will unnecessarily and unwisely encroach on their domain and threaten their survival. He said this is something all duckhunters must guard against.

END.

DUCK HUNTING OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 18)

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 conservative, 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 flyway 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 Carolinas 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 vows he will remedy that situation before long.

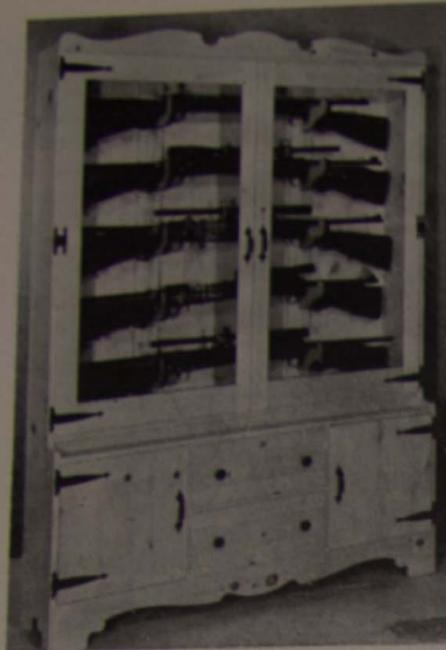
All in all the forthcoming duck season in Florida looks pretty good. And there is every indication it will improve as the years go by. END.

GET 'EM TOGETHER

(Continued from Page 29)

plans can be had from Douglas Fir Plywood Association, Tacoma 2, Washington; Coladonato Bros., Hazleton, Penna., and Pioneer Press, Harriman, Tennessee. Likewise, the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, GUNS MAGAZINE and MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED can furnish reprints of "how to do it" gun cabinet articles published in their respective magazines.

Coladonato Bros. of Hazleton, Penna., in addition to marketing



This Colonial style cabinet is one of the listings of Coladonato Bros., Hazleton, Pa. Available in kit form or completely finished, the cabinet provides horizontal storage of up to ten guns and incorporates two large drawers sandwiched between two larger compartments.

ready-made and "assemble it yourself" gun cabinet models, also put out a very helpful handbook, "Selecting A Gun Cabinet and How It Should Be Built", for 75¢.

Whether you buy it or build it, a gun cabinet to house and display your prized guns and shooting equipment will be a good investment for you. Not until you have owned one will you truly appreciate its convenience and usefulness. END.

BONNET-WATER BANTAMWEIGHTS

(Continued from Page 14)

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.

Shellcracker, *Lepomis microlophus*. There is some variation in the color pattern of this fish but the most common is a silvery-olive or silvery-bluish 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

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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 pectoral fins are short and rounded and the opercular spot dark. The scales of the breast region are much smaller than those on the sides. The dorsal fin has 10 spines and 11 or 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 colored margin. There are 10 spines and 11 soft rays in the dorsal fin; 3 spines and 10 soft rays in the anal fin.

Warmouth, *Chaenobryttus coronarius*. The body conformation of this fish is rather robust and the mouth large and rather bass-like in appearance. In coloration the warmouth is dark olive to grayish brown often flecked with gold or greenish giving a brassy over-all hue. Cheeks and opercule often with a streaked pattern. Opercular flap 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 11 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. 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. —MHN— END.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S Scrapbook

FROGS



GREEN TREE FROG

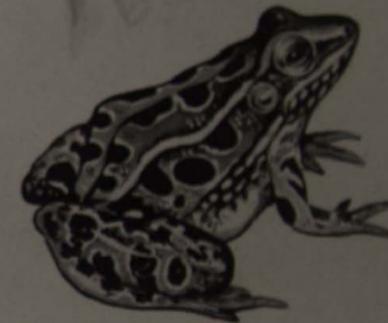


CHORUS FROG

SPRING PEEPER



GOPHER FROG



LEOPARD FROG



SOUTHERN BULLFROG



BULLFROG



NARROW-MOUTH FROG

Wallace Hughes

PAGE 14

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