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Florida Wildlife

SEPTEMBER, 1956
The Florida Magazine for all Sportsmen

25 CENTS

INSIDE ON
THE RAIL
EARLY HUNTING
SEASON NEWS
FEET FIRST

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

Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
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.

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 specified data listed below:

Name:

Address:

Species of Fish:

Weight:

Length:

Type of Tackle, Bait Used:

Where Caught:

Date:

Catch Witnessed by:

Registered, Weighed by:

(Signature of Applicant)

Florida Wildlife Fishing Citations are available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and to 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

6 pounds or larger

BLUEGILL (BREAM)

1 pound or larger

SHELLCRACKER

2 pounds or larger

BLACK CRAPPIE

3 pounds or larger

RED BREAST

1½ pounds or larger

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK

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FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

Tallahassee, Florida

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

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SEPTEMBER, 1956

VOLUME 10, NO. 4

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DIDN'T GET AWAY"
Gentlemen:

I have read and enjoyed very much the article on white squirrels living in Gadsden County. You may be interested to know that we have a colony of white squirrels in our neighborhood here in Pensacola. This is a thickly populated residential section with a small amount of woods. These squirrels nest in and around the big oaks of the neighborhood. I have never seen any mixed colonies. They are all true white. I have never seen their eyes enough to know whether they have pink eyes or not. They are not plentiful, but we see them fairly frequently, especially in the Spring after the new families have hatched out and become active.

L. C. FISHER, JR., M.D.
Pensacola, Florida.

From Nevada

Gentlemen:

Your magazine is one I never miss. As do all Game Commissions, we receive almost all the fish and game publications from other sections. I can truthfully say that the Nevada magazine takes a back seat to none and you certainly put out a top-notch publication. It has always been my desire to visit Florida if only to have a content or two or three as shown in your "Strikes and Misses," and to the magazine really whets my appetite.

JIM NEGLEY
Chief Game Warden
Nevada Fish and Game Commission
Reno, Nevada.

Piranha Threat

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my check for a 3-year renewal of the very fine Florida Wildlife Magazine. I have fished and hunted throughout Florida since I was big enough to cock an air rifle or pull back on a sling shot with chamomile for ammunition. I hope your experts will be able to get complete information on a certain form of creation which may none be about to put an end to the usefulness of Florida fresh waters. If this beast gets loose in Florida waters it will be a disaster of the most tragic nature.

I refer to the South American piranha, similar to some of our pan fish, about all flesh from the bones of man or animal. It is a pound in weight and looks somewhat like an alligator. An attack with lightning speed will strip you know, the fish itself does in cleaning or renewing of water, or b) and take appropriate action if it is found that danger exists.

James T. Singleton
Sarasota, Fla.

Bass Fingerlings

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find personal check. Please enter a subscription to Florida Wildlife for a couple of years and also send me a copy of the December 1955 issue if it is available.

I have for many years been interested in Florida's wildlife and more especially in the raising and propagation of Black Bass. I am now the Superintendent of the only county operated bass hatchery in the state. Last spring we released 1200 Bass fingerlings into the lakes of Pinellas County more than one hundred and seventy thousand bass fingerlings. I think you have a mighty nice little magazine and appreciate its contents very much.

Asa G. Beers
Clearwater, Fla.

Lake Jessup String

Dear Editor:

The enclosed photo shows a sample of M. P. Clayton's catches from the south end of Lake Jessup. The largest bass weighed eight pounds and the other two three pounds each.

L. C. FISHER, JR., M.D.
Pensacola, Florida.

White Squirrels

Gentlemen:

I have read and enjoyed very much the article on white squirrels living in Gadsden County. You may be interested to know that we have a colony of white squirrels in our neighborhood here in Pensacola. This is a thickly populated residential section with a small amount of woods. These squirrels nest in and around the big oaks of the neighborhood. I have never seen any mixed colonies. They are all true white. I have never seen their eyes enough to know whether they have pink eyes or not. They are not plentiful, but we see them fairly frequently, especially in the Spring after the new families have hatched out and become active.

The contour of the plug was the result of many hours of test in trial and error experiments. The colors had been field tested in 25 different areas and in every variety of water. The paint was an especially designed, baked on enamel, guaranteed not to crack, chip, or fade under the rigors of fishing conditions. This plug had hooks and hardware carefully planned to conform to the delicate balance so necessary for the desired action. In the bottom of the lure box was a printed pamphlet, telling in detail the characteristics of the lure and the recommended methods of fishing it. The famous name tackle manufacturer was justifiably proud of this product.

Our hero's first action was to throw the printed pamphlet, unopened, into the trash box. Next, the hooks were removed from the plug to be replaced later with much larger ones. After a moment's consideration, the final plug was thrown to later replace a large, barrel swivel and snap.

Putting the stripped plug in a vice, our hero made a series of cross cuts, backsaw cuts in the back and belly of the lure and, with an electric drill, bored 2 holes on long diagonals through the lure's body from side to side. Reassembled, and with liberal dabs of "old house paint," the plug was now the darling of our hero's heart and a perfect example of the "tackle tinker's" art.

Let's face it—tackle tinkerers tear up more good fishing tackle every year than do the fish. However, they seem to be here to stay, and while the damage they do to good tackle is appalling, it must be admitted they are, also, responsible for many of the wonderful advances made in the industry down through the years. The chances are, Dear Reader, that you, too, are a tackle tinker, and I will be the first to admit I, also, have tinkered my share. The ideal situation would be one where the tinkering urge was directed into wholly constructive channels and away from destructive ones. There is just such an opportunity awaiting the tackle tinker today.

How would you like to tinker yourself into a $1,000.00 cash prize and the possibility of future royalties and earnings besides? Well, here is your chance.

WANTED—A NEW PRODUCT

"When anyone is willing to pay a cool $1,000 for one lone fish hook, it's news in a big way. But, that's exactly what one man is willing to do, and here is the story."

Commissioner Louis A. Wehle, of the New York State Conservation Department, is concerned about the large number of fish that are unintentionally killed by anglers each year. The records reveal that a high percentage of undersized fish, caught and returned to the water, perish as a result of damage done by the fish hook or by its removal.

"Our present hooks are a barbless affair, purposely designed to make it difficult for the fish to dislodge the hook. The trouble is that this very design makes it almost impossible for the fisherman to dislodge the hook when he wants to do so without serious damage to the fish. As a result, literally millions of our game fish are destroyed every year — all because of this hook.

"Wehle, not content with this state of affairs, is offering personally $1,000 to the individual who can come up with a new idea for a wide, barbless hook that will minimize the damage to a fish. Many fishermen will immediately think of a barbless hook, but it won't do if the idea must be new."

(Continued on Page 34)

Florida Wildlife

A continued tackle tinker working at it. The look of fishidish glee, the arm poised for the powerful thrust, the waiting tools, and the open tackle box are all common symptoms of this malady.

September, 1956

By Chuck Schilling

Florida Wildlife

By Chuck Schilling

Florida Wildlife
Lake Eaton

As I look down the road I can see Old Glory fluttering in the breeze almost causing the campers as they walk by on their way to do a little fishing. It is a rather pleasant feeling knowing that we now have a flag to raise and lower each day. Just this Sunday we had a dedication ceremony. Both are gifts from interested organizations in the nearby city of Ocala. The flag was presented by Mr. John Martin representing the Woodmen of the World, and the flag pole was presented by Mr. Herb Romines on behalf of Moose Lodge 1014.

The interesting fact about this presentation is that the flag pole was the one hundredth dedicated and presented by Mr. Herb Romines. Previous presentations of flags by Mr. Romines have been made to other camps, playgrounds, churches, schools, and other similar organizations. We are very happy here at camp for having been selected by Mr. Romines for this gift. It is something we have long needed here as we are now completing our third active year. While I am at it, I can think of no better time to thank Mr. Romines on behalf of the campers and the League members of our affiliated clubs.

During the dedication ceremonies, when the flag was being raised, the sky appeared to be bluer than ever before and the red and white stripes seemed to vividly stand out against the blue-ness of the sky. It was a long awaited event, and looking at some of the eyes of those present, I could see moisture gathered there because of its importance and sentiment. Our profound thanks to Mr. Martin and the Woodmen of the World in Ocala for their generous offering of our new banner.

Mr. Bob Dahne, our Chief of Information and Education, has promised us a State Flag to unfurl beneath the Stars and Stripes. While on the subjects of gifts, I might say that we are eagerly awaiting the promised presentation of a boat from the Jaycees in Ocala. A resolution passed by the Jaycees in presenting the gift was that it should beginning to work on the C.L.A.W. Bulletin for League members. Lloyd writes that he would like to receive as much information and news as possible to publish this bulletin at least once a month. Lloyd was appointed editor and publisher of the League's official bulletin during the recent conference week and I am happy that all of us wish him every success with his new project.

Information-Education Officer Don Carroll introduces two Junior Conservation campers to one of the bear cubs recently added to the camp's wildlife collection. Photo by Jim Reed.

Northeast Week

Balgo Voss, Information and Education Officer from the Northeast Region, was very successful with his assigned week at camp for July 8 through 14. 90 young men from Jacks- sonville arrived on a Sunday afternoon in two Duval County school buses. Mr. Voss worked very closely with the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Jacksonville who sponsored the week and employed the use of school buses for transportation. Our sincere congratulations to the Junior Chamber of Commerce whose members made it possible for the youngsters in the Jacksonville area to spend a week at camp. And our hats off to Mr. Voss for his organizatonal work. We sincerely hope that this can be repeated each succeeding year and that it becomes an annual project.

During this week a trophy was offered for the best camper of the week. The lucky young outdoorsman was Frank Bunich. Frank was selected by the staff on the following qualifications: Initiative, ambition, cooperation, and interest in wildlife. He also made 100 on his examination. Our congratulations to Frank Bunich. We understand he is interested in organizing a Junior Conservation Club Unit in Jacksonville.

New Booklets

Some 100 youngsters met at Hammong Park in Jacksonville to hear for a one-week session at the Junior Conservation Camp at Lake Eaton in the Ocala National Forest. The excursion was sponsored by the Jacksonville Junior Chamber of Commerce. Times-Union photo by Lou Egner.

Fishing

For our Isaac Walton's who are interested in fishing, I am sure you will be surprised to know that several weeks ago two beautiful bass were caught here at Lake Eaton weighing 4 pounds and 6 pounds each. Great numbers of broom have been caught here by the youngsters. For this summer, the 6 pound bass has withstood all challenges.

Animal Tracking Impressions

At each week's encampment this summer, we have been keeping the best fox, alligator, raccoon and deer tracks, to be entered in the finals for the entire summer camping period. Winners in each class will be announced in the October issue. A suitable prize will be mailed to the winner having made the best track overall, and honorable mention certificates will be awarded each classification.

New Clubs

The amount of interest shown by previous campers at this year's encampment toward new clubs, we anticipate that during the fall at least a half dozen clubs will be organized in the following cities: Deland, Kissimmee, Jacksonville, Tiel, Titusville, Lake Worth, Delray Beach and Orlando. There is also considerable talk about organizing clubs in other counties. The State League Officers are looking with appreciation on the development of these new clubs.

New Booklets

I hope to be able to finish the booklet I am now writing on, "How to Organize Junior Clubs," within the
The Junior Wildlife Photo Contest ends at midnight December 31, 1956.

Contestants must be between the ages of 8 and 18 inclusive.

The contest is open to all children regardless of where they live. However, all photos must be taken within the State of Florida.

All photos must be mailed first class mail to Florida Wildlife, Tallahassee, Florida, by midnight of December 31, 1956.

Contestants may submit as many photos as they desire.

Photos must be at least 4 inches by 5 inches in size and no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches.

The following information must be printed or typed on a piece of paper and posted on the back of each photograph: (Do not write on photos.) (a) Name of camera used (b) type of film used (c) exposure used (d) location where picture was taken (e) your name, address, and age. This information must appear on the back of every photograph submitted.

All prize winning photographs become the property of Florida Wildlife.

No photographs will be returned unless self addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed with entry.

Every contestant will receive a useful item of fishing tackle whether or not their photo is selected for a division prize.

SEVEN DIVISIONS
First and second place prizes will be awarded the best photographs submitted for each of the following divisions:
BIRDS • ANIMALS • FISH • PLANTS
HUNTING • SCENICS • FISHING

CENTAURE RIVER SPINNING REEL

PHANTOM TUBULAR SPINNING ROD

GLADDING 8' PLATYL SPINNING LINE

ASSORTED FISHING TACKLE

LUCKY SEVEN TACKLE ASSORTMENTS

GLADDING SPINNING LINE

MINTON ROD HOLDER

ASSORTED PFLUEGER BAITS

CREEK CHUB BAITS

SPIN DILLY FISHING LURES

BRIDGE AND HAND LINES

ASSORTED BARRACUDA BAITS

FISHERMAN MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

PORTER SPIN POPS

FLORIDA WILDLIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS

EVERY CONTESTANT A WINNER

Every contestant will receive a useful item of fishing tackle whether or not their photo is selected for a division prize.
The Virginia Rail is not too widely known although it is far from uncommon, especially in the Gulf Coastal section where a sprinkling of these birds is the usual thing in the mixed bags which are the lot of Gulf marsh bird hunters. Considerably smaller than the King Rail, the Virginia Rail is so similar in form and coloration to that species that it appears but a pocket edition of the larger bird.

The Sora is a small rail characterized by its yellowish chicken-like bill. In flight the Sora gives the impression of being a much more adept aerial performer than its larger, more widely hunted relatives.

The little Black Rail is so small in size that it is doubtful most hunters would recognize it as a rail. This small member of the tribe flushes from the marsh before him. The Yellow Rail is a small, light-colored species seldom seen even by those who seek specifically to find specimens. Neither of these latter two birds is of significance to Florida marsh hen hunters.

There are two general methods used in the hunting of marsh hens in Florida. One method, the traditional two-men-in-a-pole-boat operation, is confined almost entirely to the Atlantic coastal marshes along the northeastern part of the state. The other, working the marsh afoot, is used in the tidelands along both the Atlantic side of the state as well as along the Gulf.

The ideal conditions for hunting from a boat result when an extremely high tide is backed by strong inshore winds. During such times, the dense vegetation of the marsh is flooded over leaving only scattered patches of sparse cover from which the rails are easily flushed. This type of hunting is best carried on as a two-man affair; one sits or stands in the bow watching the shooting while the other poles or paddles the boat through the flooded marsh.

During a season it is not often that there are more than a few days when conditions even remotely approach the ideal. Although it is definitely not as productive as hunting over an almost totally flooded marsh, a good many rails are harvested by boat hunters working slowly through the sloughs and cuts on an ordinary high tide. Despite the fact that there remains above water an abundance of cover, an occasional rail will flush from the grass at the approach of the boat. A rail may now and again be spotted picking about the open mud flats always near cover into which he can disappear the moment danger threatens. They are sometimes seen swimming sloughs and cuts for despite the fact that the marsh hen is not equipped with webbed feet they are nonetheless capable aquatic performers.

Some hunters have learned that isolated "islands" of grass and clumps of willow or other moisture loving shrubs are favored resting places for rails. These places the experienced marsh hen hunter gives special attention, shooting or thrashing them with paddle or pole as he works methodically from one clump to another through the marsh.

Roadway and railroad embankments, dikes, weedy shores of marshes, and the heavily vegetated margins of tidal sloughs and cut lines are all good prospects for rail hunting on foot.QUERY: What is the main focus of the text? The main focus of the text is the hunting of marsh hens in Florida, with emphasis on different hunting methods and the characteristics of various rail species.
shore wind that any degree of the elsewhere popular pole boat shooting is possible. In this part of the rail bird country, those who have done any amount of marsh slogging have discovered that, contrary to the usual situation, rail hunting is more productive on the low tide.

The reason for this is simple; the tides seldom flood the marshes completely enough to reduce the cover to the degree required for east coast type hunting. The habits of the rails themselves furnish the key to ebb tide hunting. As the waters recede, the birds gradually work into the zone of low growing vegetation where some of the crustaceans and other food items favored by the rails are found in abundance. From this low growing cover, the birds are much more readily flushed.

A close working dog will aid in jumping birds from the cover and will also prove invaluable in cutting down the loss of cripples. A winged rail will almost certainly hit the ground on the run, snaking off through the maze of vegetation with surprising rapidity. Rails are also accomplished divers and have been seen hugging the bottom of sloughs and potholes in an effort to elude would be captors.

Perhaps not as exciting as some of the more popular types of scatter-gunning, marsh hen hunting nevertheless does have some definite points in its favor. For one thing it offers a reason to wander afield at a time when most other types of hunting are still well in the future. It provides some early season, shoot­ing-eye polishing after several months of lay off. The marsh hen, correctly prepared, is excellent eating.

Before you relegate marsh hen hunting to the level of pot shooting chickens in the barnyard, take a try at it. You may be surprised to find that a rail bird scudding across a wind blown marsh is far from a cinch target, despite the deceptive appearance of aerial ineptness as the bird labors to clear the cover of its chosen habitat.

You may not bag too many birds or you may down the limit in record time. Be that as it may, whether you slog the marsh afoot or turn a trick at push pole or paddle, it's a cinch you will get plenty of outdoor exercise.

A good many rails are harvested by boat hunters working slowly through the sloughs and cuts on an ordinary high tide. Despite the fact that there remains above water an abundance of cover, an occasional rail will flush from the grass at the approach of the boat.

1956 MARSH HEN HUNTING REGULATIONS

Rails (marsh hens) and gallinules may be hunted from September 1 through November 9. This season of 70 consecutive days is an increase of 10 days over last year.

Bag Limits: Rails (except Sora) and gallinules—10 per day, 20 in possession. Sora—25 per day, 25 in possession.

Shooting Hours—One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

No shotguns capable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined may be used in the taking of marsh hens nor can rifles be used. Shooting from a boat with outboard motor attached or from an inboard equipped boat is prohibited.

A state hunting license is required by every hunter 15 years of age and older.

Although rails give the impression of being none too adept flying, they are far from being a cinch target for most scattergunners. -bh-
**Florida's 1956-57 General Hunting Season for non-migratory birds and animals will open the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 20, except in seven South Florida counties where an early season will open November 9. The dates were set during a formal meeting of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission at Tampa, July 14, 1956.**

Shooting hours on resident species—deer, turkey, quail, squirrel, bear and panther—will be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunting will be allowed every day in the 39 counties of the First, Third and Fourth Conservation Districts. The remainder of the state, Second and Fifth Districts, will have staggered-day hunting, with the first six days and the last six days of the season opened November 9, and the remaining days closed to all other times.

A special Spring turkey gobbling season will open November 9 in Dade, Broward, Collier, Monroe and that part of Palm Beach County South of State Road 80. Closes February 1, with an earlier closing date of January 1 in Dade, Broward, Collier and Monroe Counties and a portion of Palm Beach County.

**SQUIRREL—**Daily bag limited to 10 gray squirrel and two fox squirrels with no season bag limit. Opens Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 20, with an earlier opening date of November 9 in all counties or portions of counties lying south of State Road 80. Closes February 1, with an earlier closing date of January 1 in South Florida.

**BEAR AND PANTHER—**Legal game during open deer seasons only. Daily and seasonal bag limited to one on both bear and panther. Cub bears protected at all times.

**RABBIT—**Hunting license needed to take either cottontail or swamp rabbit during regular hunting season.

**WILD HOGS—**Game animals in certain wildlife management areas.

**DOE AND FAWN DEER—**Protected at all times in all areas.

**UNPROTECTED ANIMALS—**English sparrow, buzzard, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, grey-horned owl, crow, jackdaw, weasel, skunk, flying squirrel, opossum, red and gray fox, bobcat and raccoon are unprotected species that may be taken at any time.

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**Florida Wildlife**

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**Regional Regulations**

**1956-57 Hunting Dates**

**RESIDENT GAME**

**FLORIDA COUNTIES**

- Broward, Union and parts of Polk, Hillsborough, Baker, Nassau, Columbia and Suwannee Counties.
- Key deer protected at all times in Monroe County.

**TURKEY—**Either sex legal game during regular season, two per day, three per season, with special season bag of two in four counties. Opens Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 20, with an earlier closing date of January 1 in seven South Florida counties. Special season in Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota and DeSoto Counties. November 20 through November 25, with daily and season bag limited to two. Special Spring gobbling season March 30 through April 8 in Second and Third Districts of North Florida, special season in Clay County, November 20 through December 25. No turkey hunting permitted in Hernando, Pinellas, Alachua, Bradford, Union and portions of Polk, Hillsborough, Baker, Nassau, Columbia and Suwannee Counties.

**QUAIL—**Daily bag limited to 10, with no season bag limit. Opens Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 20, with an earlier opening date of November 9 in Dade, Broward, Collier, Monroe and that part of Palm Beach County South of State Road 80. Closes February 1, with an earlier closing date of January 1 in Dade, Broward, Collier and Monroe Counties and a portion of Palm Beach County.

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"FACE LIFTING" AT FLAMINGO

By ED LOYS

You won't recognize Flamingo or the tortuous old road that once crossed the Everglades National Park, come January, 1957!

That's the month that park officials, headed by Superintendent Dan Beard, have set for the grand reopening of the beautiful park via the new Flamingo Highway, and the completion of a new marina at its terminus on the very tip of the peninsula.

From the park entrance, 32 miles southwest of Miami, and to the most remote areas of the bay of Florida, many of its familiar landmarks have been subjected to the finishing touches on a shad­owed and dredged to a depth of 30 feet, has been completed to Coot Bay in the wind­shape of a natural river. This waterway, named Buttonwood Creek, will be the new inland "shortcut" to the Whitewater Bay-Shark River region, and to the sawgrass country to the north as well.

The new road will cross Buttonwood Creek near the former site of Browns Camp, via a high level bridge. The bridge, a park spokesman said, will have vertical clearance of 10 feet to accommodate much of the anticipated cruiser-sized boat traffic.

The fate of the Homestead Canal, that old brush-choked ditch where we used to cast for snook and baby tarpon, will miss the eye of many an angler. It has been covered with mountains of fill hauled from the immense borrow pits which now scar the salt marshes.

The borrow pits in turn are destined to replace the old road and from the park entrance, 32 miles southwest of Miami, and to the most remote areas of the bay of Florida, many of its familiar landmarks have been subjected to the finishing touches on a shad­owed and dredged to a depth of 30 feet, has been completed to Coot Bay in the wind­shape of a natural river. This waterway, named Buttonwood Creek, will be the new inland "shortcut" to the Whitewater Bay-Shark River region, and to the sawgrass country to the north as well.

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Ed Loys lands a channel bass from the saw grass area northeast of Flamingo. In this same area largemouth bass and snook also went for a yellow jig fished with spinning tackle.
In the museum’s workshop, Assistant Preparator John W. Maxfield applies preservative to the skull of a long extinct crocodilian. During the Ice Age, a geological period which ended some 10,000 years ago, Florida hosted an extraordinary variety of animal life, some forms of which still exist in the state today.

**A Pair of Limpkins**

One of the many habitat groups in the museum’s Ornithology Hall features this pair of limpkins, Florida’s unique “crying bird.”

A fibreglass porpoise, artfully created from a plaster cast of an actual specimen, receives a final buffing down by John Maxfield. Tinted in natural life colors by skilled museum craftsmen, such “models” present a strikingly life-like appearance.

Standing room only. A corner of a storage vault in the Florida State Museum. Only a small portion of the material in the museum’s extensive collections is on public display due to the restrictions imposed by space limitations.

Florida is a land of broad savannas, dense mangrove thickets, cabbage palm and magnolia jungles; of pine flatwoods, cypress bays, oak ridges and tropical sea beaches; of low, sandy hills, swift flowing, crystal clear, spring fed creeks and sluggish, swamp-stained rivers; of marshlands, ponds, and rolling clay hills. All this and more represents the diversity of the state’s wildlife habitat. Small wonder that there is a unique and abundant assemblage of animal life to be found within the boundaries of Florida. The fauna of the peninsula is perhaps more diversified than that of any other section of similar size in the country.

The wildlife of the state has not always been as we know it today. During the Ice Age, a geological period which ended some 10,000 years ago, the peninsula hosted an extraordinary variety of animal life. In addition to many of the present day species there were tigers, camels, saber-tooth tigers, mammoths, mastodons, ground sloths, giant armadillos, tapiars, dire wolves, and pecaries. Some of these animals were driven into Florida by the advance of the continental ice cap, others migrated northward from Central and South America. From skeletal fragments - a fossilized tooth, a skull, sometimes a complete skeleton - unearthed by planned, meticulous probing or accidentally in the course of commercial excavation, specialists in the field of paleontology have found clues to our planet’s ancient history.

Dr. William Sears, Assistant Curator of Social Sciences, examines a treasured find, one of two aboriginal totems thus far discovered in Florida archaeological investigations.

Contained on Next Page.
Pointing the background for a new habitat group, the artist uses color transparencies as a guide to assure authenticity. The background shown above will be part of a pine-palmetto habitat display featuring the prothonotary warbler.

The museum is popular with adults and children alike. Here a museum visiting family studies a display of Florida birds.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

One of the life-like habitat groups in the museum features this pair of Anhingas or water turkeys standing guard over a downy youngster in a tree-top nest overlooking a Florida lake.

Reminiscent of the totem carvings of Pacific Northwest Indian tribes is this owl effigy, one of two examples of Florida Indian handicraft of this type thus far discovered in the state.

Museum Director Arnold R. Gomber (left) discusses a museum display with Assistant Preparator John Maxfield.

(Continued from Preceding Page)
Doc's spirits were rising as the temperature was falling.

The weather.

had his hands full already, with license agents in the pines bordered it on both sides, and now the sumac and deer and Doc would have his hands full. He nearly country stores and hardware stores in town busy again.

HE left the city limits and headed toward the Surprise BURNING.

Doc was in the air as Old Doc was playing a hunch that might very well not pay off, so he just kept quiet.

Shortly before dark he drove back to the river road. After parking the patrol car deep in the woods on an old logging trail, Doc went back to the road on foot and crossed over to the other side. A few minutes later he returned and settled down in a clump of bushes near the road. Well concealed, he sat and waited.

The moon rose and slowly climbed above the pines. Cars passed from time to time in the early part of the evening, but by ten o'clock most of the couriers had gone home and the traffic dropped to nothing. At midnight Doc was ready to go home. He started to get up, and then dropped to the ground again. A car was coming down the road, slowly, with only parking lights to show the way. A spotlight flickered back and forth into the woods on the far side of the road. Doc hoped he had his man.

The car passed Doc, continued a hundred feet and came to a quick stop. Simultaneously a high-powered rifle shot rang out, and the car drove off.

The second shot came after the car stopped; Doc heard the report and cussed the man who would premeditate an act of such a nature. He had a case, if he could find who the shooter was. The names were luck, however. Someone cruising the woods and loaded into the trunk of the car.

The judge issued the warrant for Doc to search the premises of the owner of the car. Without the warrant Doc would have been powerless, but now he was ready to drive through on the case. He drove out to the suburb where the man lived, and parked in front of the house.

The lawn was freshly trimmed, and paint gleamed on the sides of the low frame building. A boat and trailer were parked beside the garage. Strolling up the walk, Doc was glad that the man obviously wasn't hunting for meat. That made the job a lot easier.

The woman who came to answer the old warden's knock seemed surprised at the sight of the uniform. "Ferry, lady, but I have a warrant to search the premises for illegal deer meat. I'm going to have to ask you to show me your refrigerator." Without a word she turned and led the way to the kitchen. She opened the refrigerator and took a large package from the freezer. "I suppose this is what you want," she said. Doc opened the package, looked at the dark venison, and nodded. "Fred's at work now. Could you spend a minute, and talk to him? I wish you wouldn't go to the plant." Doc nodded again. It always embarrassed him to have to go into a man's home and talk with his wife about a game violation.

Doc had no sympathy for game law violators: he served them for the game and for the families of the violators.

"Would you mind telling me where I can find Russ?" She went to the window and looked out.

"He's mowing the lawn now." Taking the package of venison, Doc thanked the woman, and walked next door.

Russ stopped the lawn mower and stood silently as Doc stuffed it. "I've come for the deer meat, Russ.

Doc thanked the woman and went back to the car.
FEET FIRST

By EDMUND McLAURIN

The saying that "when your feet hurt, you hurt all over" undoubtedy occurs to you from time to time. It is a frequent complaint. In fact, there seems to be no better way to summarize the importance of your choice of shoes and socks.

I have found that wearing rubber and leather combinations, all rubber, or all leather footgear is much more comfortable and free from pain in my own experience. The choice of these types of footgear is quite personal and the one I prefer is the all leather type.

When shopping for hunting and fishing boots or shoes, I always try on several pairs of each style. I have found that this is the best way to select the right pair of boots or shoes. I also find that trying on new boots and shoes for an extended period of time helps me to determine if they are comfortable and fit properly.

When I first started wearing all leather boots, I noticed a significant improvement in my comfort level. I was able to walk longer distances without experiencing pain. This was especially noticeable when I was on long hikes or during long fishing trips.

In conclusion, I would recommend that anyone interested in improving their comfort level while engaging in outdoor activities should consider wearing all leather boots or shoes. This type of footgear is durable, comfortable, and provides excellent support for your feet.  

(Continued on Next Page)
shrink and harden and make lacing thereafter much easier and faster.

Leather old hunting boots care must be taken to condition them at least weekly, to prevent them from drying out and cracking. Rub a small amount of shoe polish, preferably a white shoe polish, on the outer surface of the boots, and then buff them with a clean, soft cloth. This will help to keep the boots supple and prevent them from cracking.

When you return from a hunting trip, you should take the following steps to care for your boots:

1. Remove any dirt or debris from the soles and uppers of the boots.
2. Use a brush to remove any mud or dirt from the soles and uppers.
3. Use a damp cloth and mild soap to clean the soles and uppers.
4. Rinse the boots with clean water.
5. Allow the boots to air dry in a well-ventilated area.
6. Use a waterproof sealant to keep the boots from cracking.

It is important to condition your boots regularly to keep them in good condition.

(Continued on Page 38)

ANIMALS AT WORK

By ROSS PHARES

ANIMALS PROBABLY HAVEN'T IDEOLED AS MANY INGENIOUS WAYS OF MAKING A LIVING AS MAN.

All a mole has to provide his board is a set of teeth and a hole in the ground. But he does all right. He snips off the heads of earthworms, which remain alive but can't dig out of his "pantry." Thus he keeps on hand a supply of fresh meat in a fashion less complicated and more effective than man's grocer-house and deep freeze. Mole understands, or at least practices, the art of suffocation to secure food. They seal off the outlets of yellow jacket colonies, and then wait for the bees that fly out to return. If the bees have a sweet tooth, too.

Ants engage in many vocations. They are ingenious farmers, train horses, raise oats, and grow their own plants, including bears. James A. McKenna, in Black Range Tales, tells how ants take advantage of bears that have robbed bee-boxes. This long-haired animal is possibly at its messiest eating honey. James wrote: "I have taken note of a bear so smeared with honey he put me in mind of a two-year-old just out of his mother's jam pot. Once the ants get wind of the honey that has matted the bear's fur they给他们 no peace, and I have known a bear to roll an ant bed flat in its torment. Even the big bear is helpless in the face of these ingenious food collectors that have a sweet tooth, too.

The archer fish, a strange hunter with a water gun and dead eye aim, hunts out-of-water game. It digs in the sand, or at least practice, the art of suffocation to secure food. They seal off the outlets of yellow jacket colonies, and then wait for the bees that fly out to return. If the bees have a sweet tooth, too.

Ants even use the large mammals, including bears. James A. McKenna, in Black Range Tales, tells how ants take advantage of bears that have robbed bee-boxes. This long-haired animal is possibly at its messiest eating honey. James wrote: "I have taken note of a bear so smeared with honey he put me in mind of a two-year-old just out of his mother's jam pot. Once the ants get wind of the honey that has matted the bear's fur they给他们 no peace, and I have known a bear to roll an ant bed flat in its torment. Even the big bear is helpless in the face of these ingenious food collectors that have a sweet tooth, too.

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He told me, "A boat and a bent pin and a piece of bread. Get it in." His face was expressionless in the gleam of my flashlight. So did I. Slowly and unhappily.

How the next mishap came about I don't know.

Now understand, I'm not claiming that Jim deliberately started the motor before I was seated. Of course not!

A man just doesn't go around making remarks like that about good friends who weigh as much as Jim does... but the fact remains that somehow there uses the spit, spatter, racket and roar as the confounded contraption suddenly caught, hurling us through the water and darkness at a frightening rate.

Chill fingers of briny wetness clawed at the goose bumps along my arms and legs as I tried to regain my balance. A sudden lurch, a rock and roll, and what seemed like a solid wall of ice hit me flush in the face.

I shook my head. I spit. I blew my nose.

"I said, "Jim, I'm getting wet."

"I said, "Would you mind taking it easy?"

"He told me, "Sorry."

It was too dark to see the smile.

So I sat there and froze and thought thoughts that weren't so nice, and it seemed three hours before the sun decided to come up, but it finally did and right then there everything was all right. I mean, you might have seen sunrises at home, wherever you are from, but I have got to tell you that there is something about a Florida sunrise viewed from a boat in the middle of a big lake that just can't mean anything to you.

"I said, "Jim, that sure is a pretty picture."

"Jim I wish I had my camera."

He told me, "Well, you wouldn't snap it. You'd be shooting right into the sun."

"I said, "I hadn't thought of that, but I wouldn't let him know it so I had a little smile."

"I said, "Jim, you have never heard of filters and special lenses?"

"Jim I guess you don't know about the new camera Dorothy got me for my birthday."

"I told me, "Yeah Jim, I know. Have you seen it? A box camera. You couldn't put a filter on that with glue."

"I reached down under the seat and dragged out a brown leather case, from which he pulled a gleaming new Argus C4.

"Then I kind of brace myself and I put on pressure."

"I feel something on the line, and I get a piece of glue."

But inside I am beginning to feel unsorry for him, maybe even jealous and I am wondering when my fish are going to start biting as it is only a matter of time, after all, and I know even he knows that. Then I feel a something on the line, and I get a piece of excitement through me cause I've got a big one. I can tell.

I pull just a little to keep the line taut and tight, and meanwhile I'm thinking about whether I should try for the big hulk and yank him in, or maybe give him a little slack and let him take himself out, and while I am debating with myself Jim shows his true mean spirit.

"He tells me, "You sure could use a reel right now, eh buddy?"

My sister taught me how when I was a kid, and I do it now. I curl my lip at him. Nasty. It doesn't bother him.

He tells me, "Better ease up a triilo. Make sure you have a reel and a reel and a reel . . . or a tire . . . or a bread."

"I look him in the eye."

"I say, "Jim shushing."

"I say, "You or nobody else is going to talk me out of this one."

I wish I had a boat, a bent pin and a piece of bread."

Then I kind of brace myself and I put on pressure.

Jim quiets down and watches as the line tightens in my hands, and I know the strain where it's cutting across my palm, but I keep tightening and tightening and still the resistance just disappears, and up out of the water it comes, with a swirl and a shimmering flash, spraying us with a misty rain as it pummels the water and its gills, bellows like, pump in and out.

"I say, "Jim, you've got a Band-aid?"

"I say, "Jim, my thumb. The hook."

"He opens the first aid kit across to me, slow like.

"Then I kind of brace myself and I put on pressure."

"I feel a something on the line, and I get a piece of glue."

According to the information provided, the document appears to be a fictional story about a fishing trip. The following paragraphs contain details about the trip, including the fish caught and the challenges faced by the characters involved. The story is set in a lake and involves various characters, with the primary focus on the dramatic and exciting events that occur during the fishing trip. The narrative is engaging and captures the reader's attention, providing a vivid depiction of the natural environment and the adventures that unfold. The story is written in a descriptive and immersive style, effectively conveying the emotions and experiences of the characters involved. Overall, the document is a compelling read that keeps the reader engaged from start to finish. 

(Continued on Page 41)
I. -even using the same mouthpiece--and, while others future use.

fellow diving enthusiast, Townsend told his friend:

Divers, Inc., what is believed to be the first such

Florida.

First step in fighting underwater panic is shown here: students are taught how to lift tank to face level and, using remaining air in their bodies, blow sharply into breathing mouthpiece to force unwanted 'cloggimg' water through regulator's flapper valve, as shown here.

Above: With his breathing apparatus thus cleared of clogging water, instructor watches as student crews valve from tank to provide what air for breathing. Below: Safely "on air" now, stu-

student Jim Desser of Hollywood, Florida, proceeds to put compressed air tank into position at his back.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

(Continued on Next Page)
labor's flapper valve, thereby clearing once more the lung's vital breathing circuit.

"Now go sit on the bottom and do it several times," Ed Townsend next tells his pupils. He goes down with them, swimming effortlessly about them like a portly porpoise as he observes closely each operation which may save their lives later.

Before the students are turned loose to roam the pool depths Townsend also teaches them how to rid their face masks of water without surfacing. Such masks are apt to suddenly leak on occasion and he feels the resultant loss of vision is a first step toward uncontrollable panic—and subsequent death.

"Once more, tilt your body sharply to the left," he explains. "Then, using the right hand to hold the right side of the face mask close against your cheek, blow out sharply through the nose and into the mask. The air so compressed in the mask will force out the obscuring water past the seal on the lower or left edge." Townsend refuses to rent or sell a diving device to anyone who has not taken this two-hour anti-panic check-out course.

The ocean diving portion of the school comprises a trip by cruiser to reefs off Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The boat is anchored in 40 or 50 feet of water, and, under the watchful care of three instructors (one of whom dives with you), you are permitted to go overboard.

To avoid possible injury from the 40 pounds of equipment on your back (it could knock you out by striking the head), you are shown how to either jump in feet first or, better, sit on the gunwale and tumble over backward. The latter method prevents striking the head), you are shown how to either jump in feet first or, better, sit on the gunwale and tumble over backward. The latter method prevents striking the head, the blackish brown back feathers edged with buffy brown, and the white line above the eye are diagnostic characteristics.

The compressed body form which gives rise to the expression "skinny as a rail" enables the birds to slip through the dense, matted vegetation of their chosen habitat.

Clapper Rail—Rallus longirostris

Subsp. Clapper Rail—Rallus longirostris lucius

This bird is somewhat smaller than the King Rail, averaging 12 inches in length and having a wingspread of 13½ inches. The short, chicken-like bill, the black face, and white streaked back pattern are distinctive characteristics. Winter residents of the state, they are essentially inhabitants of the salt water areas but may sometimes be found on the freshwater marshes.

Sora—Porzana carolina

The Sora is somewhat smaller than the Virginia Rail, averaging 8¾ inches in length and having a wingspread of 13½ inches. The short, chicken-like bill, the black face, and the white streaked back pattern are distinguishing characteristics. Winter residents of the state, they are essentially inhabitants of the salt water areas but may sometimes be found on the freshwater marshes.

Yellow Rail—Coturnicops noveboracensis

The Yellow rail is rather widely distributed in the United States but is probably less often observed than any other bird of comparable dimensions. It is somewhat smaller than the Virginia Rail in markings and coloration that it appears but a small-sized replica of its larger relative. This bird measures from 8½ to 10½ inches in length with a wingspread of from 13 to 14½ inches. Compared with the much larger King Rail, the body coloration is darker, with less white on the throat. The gray cheeks and the reddish forewings are other identifying characteristics.

Rarely if ever nesting within the state, the Virginia Rail is a fall and winter resident of Florida's salt marshes.
BECKELHYMER
Carved Wood Grips

FITZ
Molded Plastic

FRANZITE
Molded Agate Plastic

By Edmund McLaun

The current editorial staff and the departmental editors of FLORIDA WILDLIFE, expressions of reader opinion are comparable in value to what heartbeats, blood flow, lung action and chest reverberations tell an examining physician when he listens in with his auscultative stethoscope. From such expressions, both an accurate diagnosis and a future course of action can be evaluated and initiated, be the main concern a doctor's patient or the policy and publication of a magazine.

Therefore, FLORIDA WILDLIFE's firearms editor is particularly pleased when readers speak up to express opinions, share ideas and shooting secrets, argue fine-line technical points and pass along for editorial solution shooting problems of perplexing personal encounter.

Recently, shooting clubs and individual marksmen throughout the state have jointly indicated that many readers of the firearms section want to know more about the various available styles and makes of handgun grips and their sources of supply. Expressed interest seemingly has had a two-point objective:
1. Obtaining comfortable, natural-feeling and score-boosing handgun grips, and
2. Dressing up a measured handgun to give it added eye appeal.

The March issue of MUZZLE FLASHES featured the custom-built stocks of Steven J. Herrett, of Twin Falls, Idaho, who has been making hand-filling, eye-stimulating target stocks for both Florida handgummers and national personalities of handgun tournament competition. Herrett's gun-grips are individually tailored to size specifications identified by a submitter's outline hand-and-finger-drawing of the shooter's gun hand. As with similarly custom products of other custom craftsmen, like Beckelhymer, Sandersen and others whose skills have made their names familiar words in handgun conversation, Herrett's creations are seldom found on store-stock shelves or on display by Florida sporting goods dealers. In fact, relatively few Florida sporting goods stores and gunsmiths offer over-the-counter delivery of a comprehensive line of pistol grips—something that is understandable when one stops to consider the many popular handgun models and the attendant technical difficulties of fitting individual guns and owners with their needs and preferences.

Since many of the creators of scientifically designed and truly attractive pistol grips are primarily craftsmen and not photographers in an advanced sense, photographic illustrations of the currently available styles and brands of pistol grips are frequently either totally lacking or else catalogued in such form as to actually do them injustice. This trade situation became concrete when this editor attempted to assemble clear-cut photographs of the various available products. Either the manufacturers did not have such material or else they could furnish only blurred photos or wood-cut drawings.

So, for several weeks, we have been photographing the products of a number of handgun-grip manufacturers, that MUZZLE FLASHES' readers may have close-up views of available styles, together with a mailing guide of sources of supply. (Since Herrett stocks were featured in the March issue, the Idaho craftsman's product has been omitted from the photo compilation.)

Photos generally depict some of the ready-made grips, products averaging considerably below custom-made grips in retail price. However, for those shooters who wish to purchase properly lotted, but roughly shaped, grips for personal finishing, one or two photos have been made to show what is available.

Since pictures tell their own stories, this month's text will give way to illustrations, with the following handgun grip shopping guide carried in support, that readers may know of some of the available products and their manufacturers:


HUNTING AND TRAPPING LICENSES

(Issued from Office of County Judge)
Exempt—Residents 65 years of age and over; children under 15.
Cost includes County Judge's fee.
Service men stationed in Florida are considered residents for Florida insofar as licenses to hunt and fish are concerned.

GAME:
Series I—Resident County (Los Angeles 49, California. Fitz—Sports, Inc., 3201 Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois. Beckelhymer—Beckelhymer Co., 508 Salinas Avenue, Laredo, Texas. Winger Rough Carved & Inlaid—Bob Winger, 117 Broad Street, Montoursville, Penna. Mittemier—Frank Mittemier 3351 E. Tremont Avenue, New York 61, N. Y. Combat—Custom Craft Co., Box 457-M, Pasadena, California. 10-Point—Merson, Company, 511 E. Broadway, Glendale 5, California. Except when able to buy these products over the counter, with opportunity for pre-purchase examination and handfit, always submit an outline drawing of your gun hand and its fingers as explained in detail in the March 1956 issue, together with the make, model and serial number of your handgun.


-- *TRAPPING LICENSES

Series A—Non-Resident, State...
Series B—Non-Resident, State...
Series C—Non-Resident, County...
Series D—Non-Resident, County...
Series E—Non-Resident, State...
Series F—Non-Resident, County...
Series G—Non-Resident, State...
Series H—Non-Resident, County...
Series I—Non-Resident, County...
Series J—Non-Resident, County...
Series K—Non-Resident, State...
Series L—Non-Resident, County...
Series M—Non-Resident, County...
Series N—Non-Resident, State...
Series O—Non-Resident, County...
Series P—Non-Resident, State...
Series Q—Non-Resident, County...
Series R—Non-Resident, State...
Series S—Non-Resident, County...
Series T—Non-Resident, State...
Series U—Non-Resident, County...
Series V—Non-Resident, State...
Series W—Non-Resident, County...
Series X—Non-Resident, State...
Series Y—Non-Resident, County...
Series Z—Non-Resident, State...

* Report of Game and Fur-Dealers taken in previous season must be filed with County Judge when applying for hunting or trapping license. Failure to file data on blank from attached to application is cause for refusal of license.

** Trapping season—December 1, 1956 to March 1, 1957.

SEPTEMBER, 1956

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FEET FIRST
(Continued from Page 26)

Back to School

BY GEORGE CROWLEY

With the kids back in school, home can be a lonesome place for the dog. But it is still better for him to be a little bit lonesome than to try to go to school, too.

About the worst place in the world for a dog is a school yard full of children. The excitement of too much running, too much playing, and too much attention can make the best behaved dog careless with his teeth. Add to this the danger of having his feet stepped on in a crowd and it is pretty obvious why school officials welcome dogs almost as warmly as they would welcome the Queen of England. Dogs in ancient Japan were regarded as symbols of the mystical powers of dogs and canine have lived together as friends and partners for ages. Dogs in ancient Japan were regarded as symbols of the mystical powers of dogs and canine have lived together as friends and partners for ages. Dogs in ancient Japan were regarded as symbols of the mystical powers of dogs and canine have lived together as friends and partners for ages.

“Don’t let anyone think that you aren’t safe just because you are small. Just because you’re small, it doesn’t mean you can’t be dangerous.”

Tales from the Animal Kingdom

Jr. Conservationist
(Continued from Page 7)

next two or three weeks, and if all goes well it should be in print late this fall. I am writing two other booklets, “How To Operate Junior Conservation Clubs,” and “The Youth Conservation Camp and Bird Banding System.”

ANIMALS AT WORK
(Continued from Page 27)

To give the lines maximum attraction to the women every inch in size with mucus glands, which give them the appearance of a hard-pressed disk. Such a case, with its dome of unbroken thousands of living animals, is draped with a million glistening lines of diamonds is a veritable fairyland. But the faceless creatures are not putting on an enchanting show. They are merely making a living in one of the lesser worlds, for the wise decision is to put feet first!

ANIMALS AT WORK
(Continued from Page 27)

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Window on Florida
(Continued from Page 21)

of our natural and cultural heritage; to study this material and conduct related research; and to prepare reports and exhibits for the dissemination of the knowledge accumulated by the studies of the collections. The Museum contains important collections of Floridian archeological material and a monetary valuation of about a half million.

Whatever your interest in the museum—a place to spend an interesting hour or two on an otherwise idle afternoon, or a source of an extensive reference collection of historical, archaeological, and natural history material for intensive study—you will find the doors open to you. Dr. Grohmann sums up the outlook, which governs the operation of the Museum as follows, “The Florida State Museum is for use.”

Even the Snook Look!

SALT WATER ANGLERS RECEIVE THE NEXT FIVE ISSUES OF SALT WATER SPORTSMAN

For Only $1.00

Salt Water Sportman is the only magazine in the world devoted 100% to salt water sport fishing along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Published monthly at 25¢ a copy, it gives the latest on where to, when to, and how to fish from the Merritimes to Mississippi. The special December Florida issue includes an index and a listing out the state. Start receiving your copies now by sending only $1 for the next five.

SALT WATER SPORTSMAN
229 West 14th Street
Hialeah, Florida

September, 1956

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FLORIDA WILDLIFE

39
The Johnson "Century" casts like a true, but you can still pull a good fishing odd from it.

Amidst these surgical movements, a few things he has done just become prejudicial against certain closed spool reel models because of their faulty extra-tight winding of line, resulting in annoying line twist. However, the Johnson product is free of this trouble, the line spooling evenly and smoothly. A reliable line pick-up is incorporated in the "Century"'s mechanism that positively prevents your exposure line twist and trouble on retrieves.

To change crooking operations from one side of the reel to the other requires only the removal of a couple metal plates and screws and switching side and crank plates and handles. But the reel operation of this drag mechanism is unaffected by the change; you will still get on adjustment of 

But how much faster does one turkey caller go on a turkey hunt than a gobbling mouthpiece? The new product, however, must first be tested before any turkey hunter can adequately judge its many merits. It is only a fair and justifiable test of the new Johnson product is that it is free of any drag at all, even when spooling line.

The unit need not be set for the proper line delivery. A closed spool device that deserves top-ranking position on any roll-up spool that catches the stone through a small tube. The weight of the stone keeps the emanating bubbles at the bottom of the bait container, where they can best carry oxygen through the greatest volume of water, as they escape to the surface. The Johnson product can be used in your car, boat or anywhere, and is dependable and economical. It comes in a 4½ x 3½ x 1½ inches plastic box that can be carried either in coat pocket or the glove compartment.

To the credit of the product's manufacturer, the Johnson Company, we are happy to report that the consumer has no reason to prefer a roll-up spool that catches the stone through a small tube. The weight of the stone keeps the emanating bubbles at the bottom of the bait container, where they can best carry oxygen through the greatest volume of water, as they escape to the surface. The Johnson product can be used in your car, boat or anywhere, and is dependable and economical. It comes in a 4½ x 3½ x 1½ inches plastic box that can be carried either in coat pocket or the glove compartment.

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DIVING SCHOOL

(Continued from Page 32)

can be quickly slipped, permitting the craft to be underway within sec­
ods.

As you descend the sloping anchor line you experience an exhilarating
feeling of newfound freedom and ex­citement that will very likely remain
as long as you live. Below you awaits a vague shimmering world of gold
and jade; a bewitching watery fairy­
land that has always proven an ir­
resistible challenge to adventure­
some souls. You are surprised at
the loud cranking clatter made by
a family of crayfish as they emerge
partially from their cavern to in­
spect you. Frightened, they depart,
swimming backward in characteris­
tic spasms each time the tail is flipped
beneath the colorful body. Perhaps
you hear the grunt of a big grouper,
or count the slow, booming revolu­
tions of a freighter’s screw, half a
dozens miles away.

When you have descended about
15 feet you discover it necessary to
"pop" your ears to avoid discom­
fort from the changing pressure.
This is done by sealing off both nos­
trils (with fingertips pressed up­
ward against the nose through the
pliable rubber of the face mask)
and snorting hard. This opens the
Eustachian tubes to the ears. The
process need not be repeated unless
you surface and descend again.

Always, you remain aware of that
exultant feeling of being able to
shoot upward or downward in long,
effortless arcs at
inches filling pre­

sure, hence

(Continued from Page 23)

"Where’s all the excitement in this Florida
fishing?"

As for care, the equipment will
last for years provided it is kept out
of the sun, and mouthpiece and reg­
lator are thoroughly washed in
fresh water after each use. Prior to
extended storage rubber parts
should be sprinkled with talcum
powder.

"Remember that it is exceedingly
simple to put on one of these de­
"Ed con­
cludes. 

--and it is equally simple to
get into trouble. Unless you are
prepared beforehand to combat it,
panic can hit you like this--just like
that!"

DOC SPRINGS A SURPRISE

(Continued from Page 23)

I don’t have a warrant, but I can
get back and get one."

"That won’t be necessary, mister.
I know we couldn’t get by with it.
I’ve been waiting for you since I
saw your car drive up next door.
I’ll get it for you."

The man returned a minute later
with another package of the size
Doc had gotten at the neighbor’s
house. Doc wrote a citation,
arranging to meet at recorder’s court
the following morning. As Doc turned to leave,
the man asked him, “What are you
going to do with the dear meat?"

"This is going to the County Home,”
Doc said. “Everything we get like
this goes to them or to the orphanage."

“One more question, mister. Did
you have anything to do with a deer
head I shot last night?"

"Yes, I sure did. Sometimes we
use funny bait in this business, but
we’re satisfied as long as it does the
job."

After visiting the County Home,
Doc headed for the river again.
Most of the time he liked it out
there.

FLORIDA BIRDLIFE

(Continued from Page 23)

tribution in the country. Occurs in
the state as a wintering species.

Black Rail—Laterallus jamaicensis

The sparrow-sized Black Rail
is another seldom seen but appar­
etly rather common and widely distrib­
uted member of the rail family. In
total length this little marsh bird
averages about 5½ inches with a
wingspread of approximately 11
inches. The body coloration is dark
greyish grading to black with
sporadic white flecks on the back
and white lines on the sides.

The bird is known as a nesting
species in Florida, at least in the
northern two-thirds of the state.

Florida’s Fishing Licenses

(issued from Office of
County Judge)

Exempt—Residents 65 years of age
and over; children under 13.

Cost includes County Judge’s fees.

Service men stationed in Florida,
are considered residents of Florida
insofar as licenses to hunt and fish
are concerned.

FISHING

Series A—Resident State, Fresh
Water

Series B—Non-Resident State,
Fresh water

Series C—Non-Resident, 14-day
Continuous Fishing, Fresh
Water

Series D—Non-Resident, 5-day
Continuous Fishing, Fresh
Water

License Required to take fresh
water fish.

License not required of residents to
fish non-commercially with three
poles in county of legal residence.

License required to fish outside of
county in which you reside regard­
less of method used.

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