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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X

OCTOBER, 1916

No. 1

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

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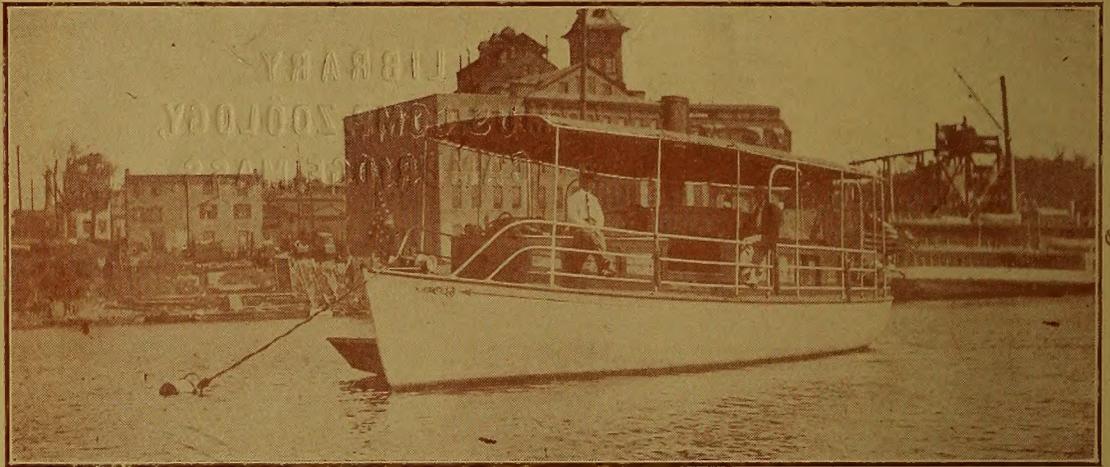
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Correspondence—The Marshall Poultry Farm.

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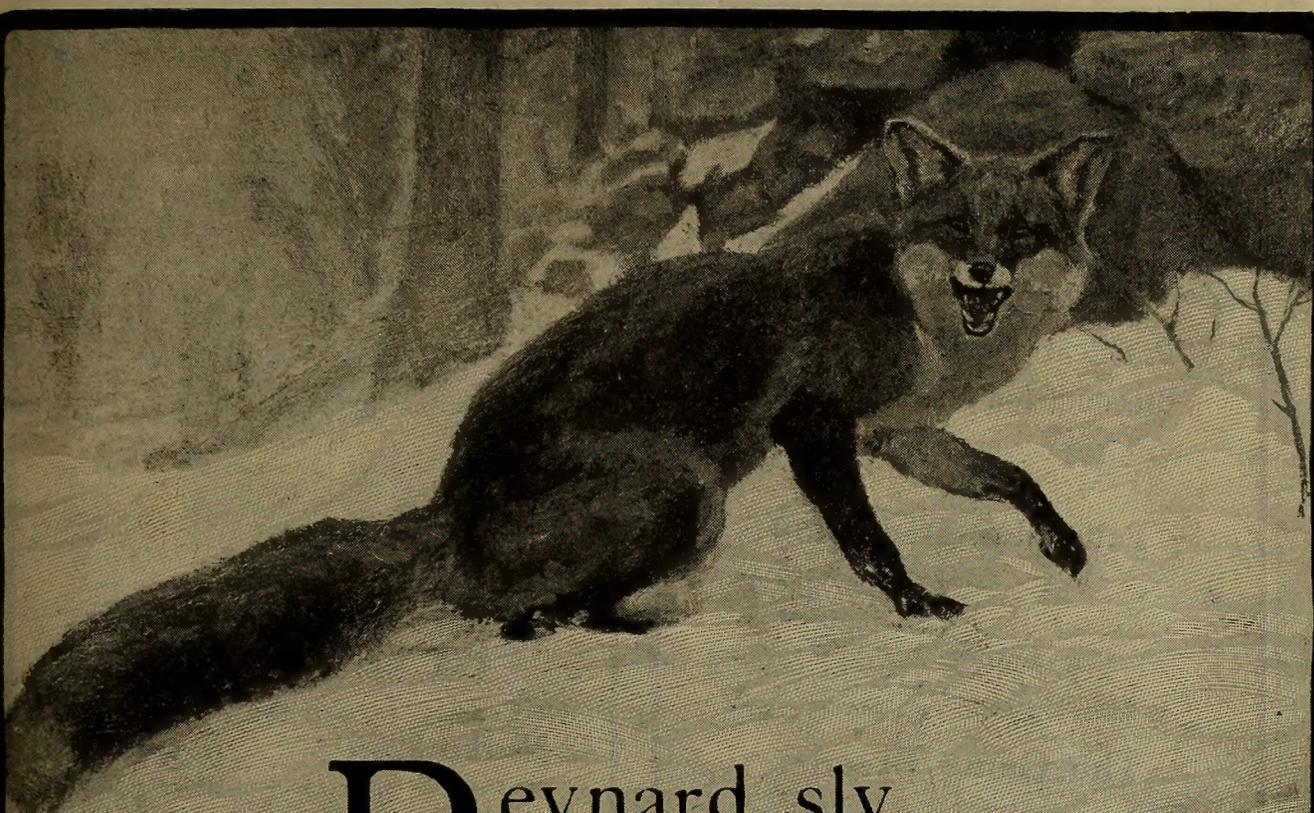
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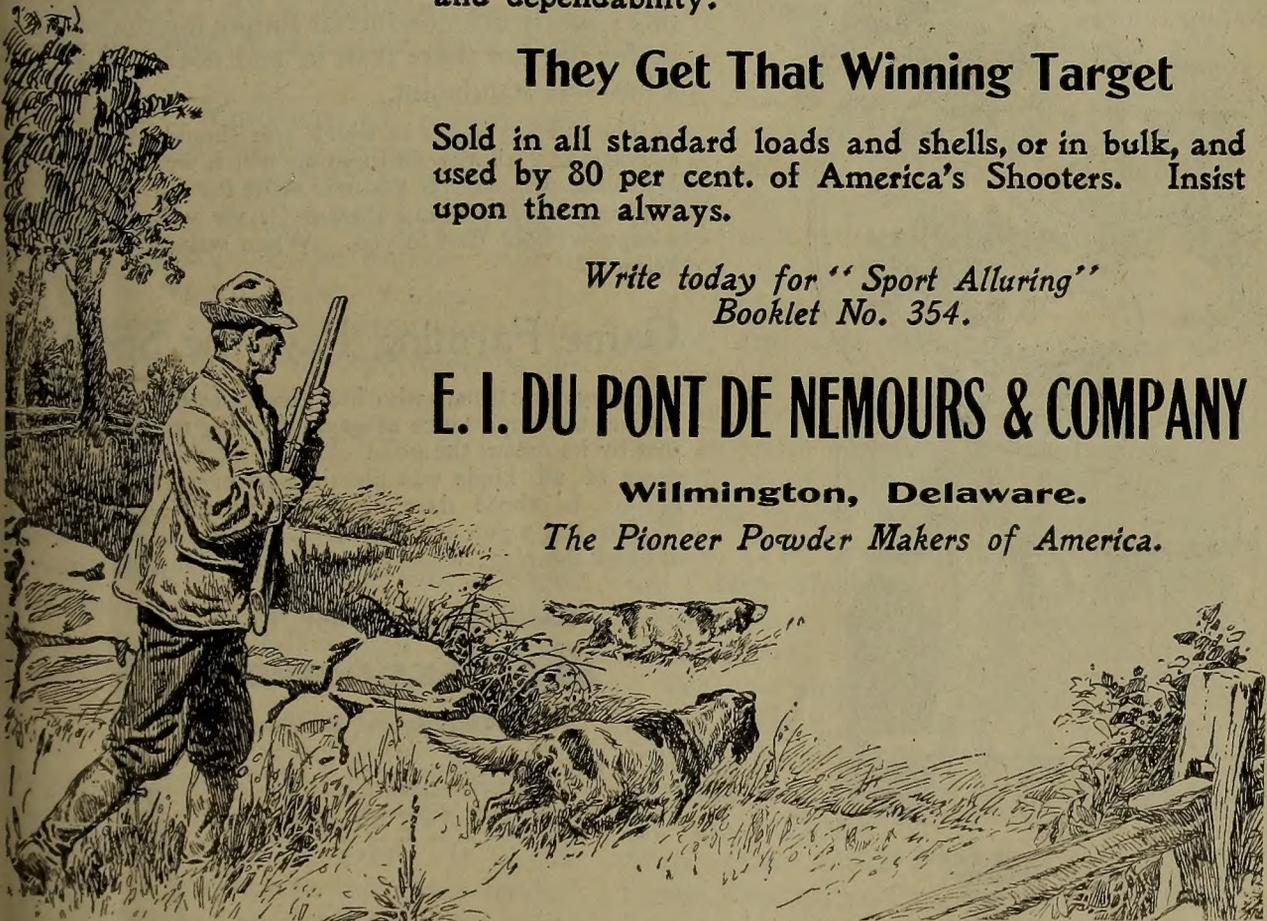
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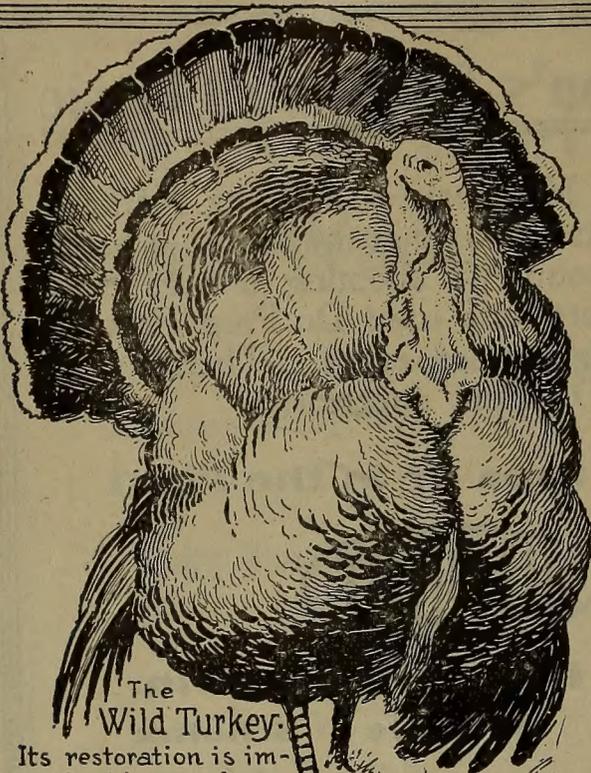
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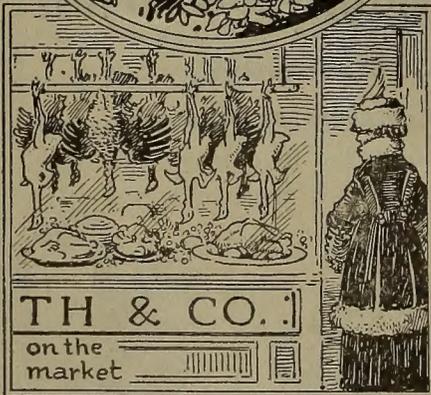
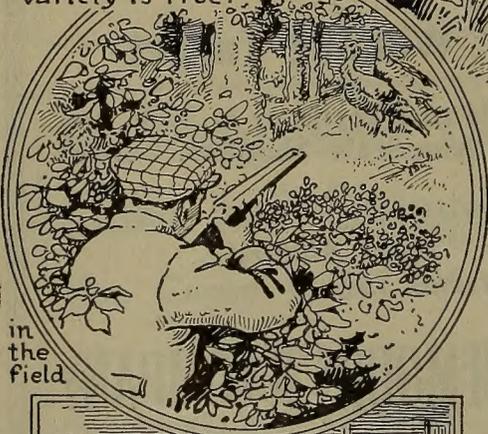


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The Game Breeder

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VOLUME X

OCTOBER, 1916

NUMBER 1



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Good Work in Minnesota.

Mr. Frank I. Blair, field secretary of the Minnesota Game and Fish Protective League, in the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune, tells the sportsmen of the State the result of Minnesota's initial attempt at game bird breeding.

The game breeding farm is on Big Island, Lake Minnetonka, and it is supported in part by the league and in part by the State. As a result of the first year's breeding it is "alive with game birds."

There are hundreds of ring-necked pheasants and many covies of quail. There are sixty wild ducks and a few prairie grouse. Only a few pair of ducks were purchased, but the number will be largely increased next season. The hand-rearing of prairie grouse was not very successful. This experiment is described in Notes from the Game Farms and Preserves in this issue.

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Plans for the Future.

Next winter the Minnesota League proposes to introduce in the legislature a game breeders bill which will make game farming profitable. Mr. Blair says: "When we get the farmers raising game we can be sure of good sport for years and years to come. The co-operation not only would prove profitable to them, but would insure sport forever. It is the only way to perpetuate the game birds."

Minnesota has an excellent State game officer, and we hope he may be continued in office until the State becomes a great game-producing State and all of the sportsmen have excellent shooting and all of the people have an abundance of

game to eat. The league and its secretary are to be congratulated.

The circulation of *The Game Breeder* rapidly is increasing in Minnesota. We heard some time ago that the booklet on "Game Farming," issued by the Hercules Powder Co., had been largely in demand, and that much credit for the good work no doubt should be given to that educational publication and the enterprise of its publishers.

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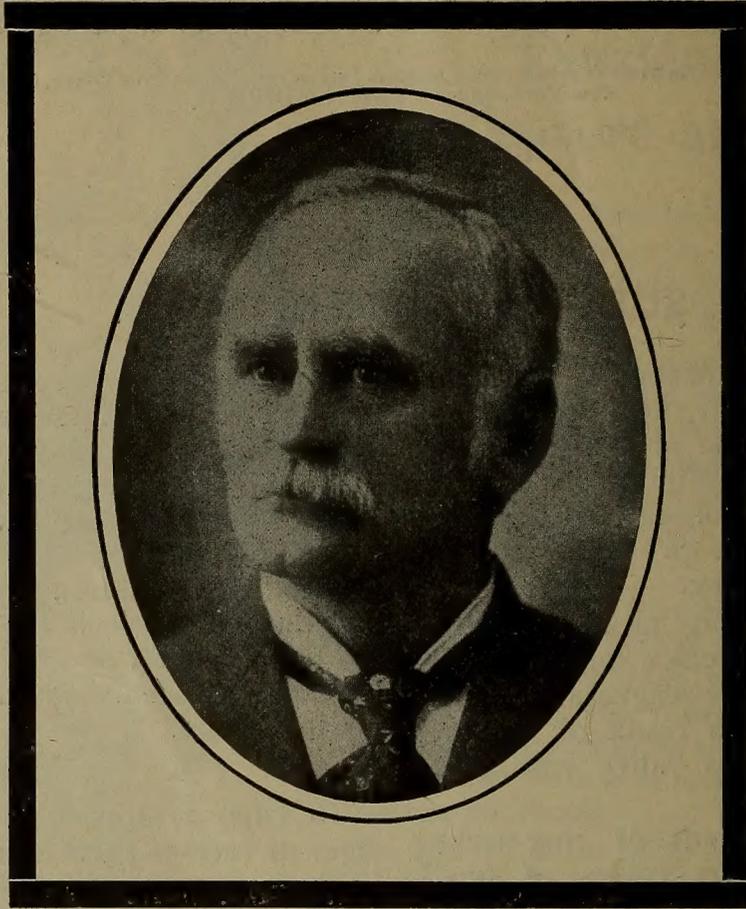
Ohio.

In Ohio a proposition for State refuges in various parts of the State where game can be introduced and bred for public shooting. New York has a big State park where public shooting and fishing are permitted. There are vast bays and saltings where the public can shoot, and vast areas of wild and uninclosed lands.

The State should, of course, permit and regulate shooting on such areas. It cannot issue a license for \$1.00 permitting the holder to shoot up the posted farms. The breeding and sale of game on a very small area of the lands now posted soon will fill the markets with cheap game.

We are pleased to observe that most of the State game officers now agree that the profitable production of game on such places should be encouraged on the most liberal terms. Many of the State game officers subscribe for *The Game Breeder* and are interested in working out the problems which rapidly are being worked out in the interest of more game and fewer game laws.

Ohio has an excellent State game office, and we hope to see rapid progress in that State.



The Late JUDGE D. C. BEAMAN

Letter from Judge Beaman to The Game Breeder

Editor The Game Breeder:

I have been a long time interested in game and fish breeding and read your magazine with great interest, as I believe it represents one of the most important and coming industries of the nation, viz., the private propagation of game and fish for sale. The private propagation of fish in Colorado under the liberal State laws passed in 1899 has increased so much that our trout are now legally on the market every day in the year, and their illegal catching and sale is at an end.

Judge D. C. Beaman Reaches the End of a Long and Useful Professional Career.

In the death of Judge D. C. Beaman, 77 years old, former vice-president of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, yesterday afternoon at 2:05 o'clock, at the Metropole Hotel, Denver and Colorado lost a distinguished citizen and a noted lawyer.

As a lover and promoter of clean sport, Judge Beaman occupied a place in which he had few rivals. He was the moving spirit in the organization of the American Trotters' Association, the parent of all Western track associations, serving as vice-president and later as president of that organization.

MIND KEENLY LEGAL.

As a lawyer, Judge Beaman was known among his associates as a man "with a natural legal mind," an ever-ready wit, and a remarkably quick perception of vital issues. He had an abundance of humor, and often illustrated his points with apt stories, many of which were drawn from his early experiences and observations on an Iowa farm.

David Crichton Beaman was born at Burlington, Lawrence County, Iowa, November 22, 1838. His parents were Gamaliel Carter Beaman, a Presbyterian minister and ardent abolitionist, and Emelia Crichton, born in Perthshire, Scotland, and a descendant of the family of which the "Admirable" Crichton was the most noted member.

As a sergeant in an Iowa company of the Union army, he took part in the battle of Athens, Mo., on August 5, 1861. His company engaged in the battle of Athens before it was mustered into the regular army. Mr. Beaman later was assigned to the Federal revenue service, in which he remained until the close of the war. He presented a Confederate flag and cannon ball captured at the battle of Athens to the Iowa Historical Society.

RETIRED SIX YEARS AGO.

He was admitted to the bar in Van Buren County, Iowa, in 1869, and quickly rose to eminence. His ability

was the cause of his being called to Colorado in 1887 by John C. Osgood, and he became connected with the operations of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, with which company, as vice-president, director, secretary or general counsel, Mr. Beaman was identified for more than twenty-five years. In January, 1910, he retired from active service.

Mr. Beaman married Luella A. Smith at Athens, Mo., December 31, 1860. He visited Gunnison, Colo., and other points of the State from 1880 and 1887, when he moved to Glenwood Springs, coming to Denver in 1888.

Besides his widow, Judge Beaman is survived by four children, James L. Beaman, of Pueblo; Mrs. W. T. Harper, of Ottumwa, Iowa; A. D. Beaman, of Denver, and G. C. Beaman, of Los Angeles.—*The Rocky Mountain News.*

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More Sharks.

Mr. Fred Sauter, "leading taxidermist," in a letter to *The Game Breeder*, says: "I just read in the September *Game Breeder* what is said about sharks. I have just completed mounting one tiger shark 10 feet long, one white shark 9 feet 6 inches long, one white shark 6 feet long, one sand shark 8 feet long, and just now I am mounting one blue shark 9 feet 6 inches long. These sharks were all caught along the New Jersey shore.

The blue shark I am mounting for Mr. James Dunn, whose son was bitten by a shark in Mattawan Creek, N. J. His leg was mangled quite badly, but he will come out of the hospital all right, except his leg will be stiff. He will travel and exhibit the shark. Mr. Sauter's advertisement appears on another page.

Was it the "blue" shark that attacked the son of Mr. James Dunn?

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Long Island Clubs.

There are seventy-one organizations in Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Long Island, N. Y., devoted to affording recreation to their members and friends. Many of these clubs have game shooting. Stories about several of them have been published in *The Game Breeder*. Quail shooting has been pre-

served, and the bag limit recently has been doubled. An interesting fact is that the quail shooting is good on a large area where any one can shoot by reason of the overflow from the "noisy sanctuaries," and quail shooting is prohibited in other parts of the State, as it is in Ohio and other States.

Many of the country clubs have trap shooting also, and, in fact, traps and clay birds are to be found at all of the game clubs.

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Oil and Sea Birds.

Members of the expeditionary force of the United States Marine Corps, on duty at Puerta Plata, Santo Domingo, who visited the sea shore near the place of the Memphis disaster, report that many sea gulls and water fowl were destroyed by the oil pumped overboard by the Memphis, Castine and other American warships when the storm struck them. The oil stuck to the wings of the birds and prevented flight.

We printed some time ago the story of the destruction of thousands of wild ducks which flew down to a lake of oil in Mexico made by the overflow from gushing oil wells.

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New Jersey.

A lady in New Jersey who wished to undertake game breeding wrote to one of the lady members of the Game Conservation Society and purchased a few pheasant eggs. She was informed after the eggs arrived that she must take out a license which would cost \$5 (more than the amount paid for the eggs); that this license would expire December 31 and must be renewed before she could expect to realize on the birds reared; that before she attempted to sell her game she must first offer it to the State at a reasonable price. She decided not to experiment with game and "passed the eggs to a friend who is a voter." In concluding her letter she wisely remarks: "The fools are not all dead yet, are they?"

The New Jersey law undoubtedly depreciates the value of the farm owned by the New Jersey lady and it evidently

has put an end to the idea of having game on this farm. Our advice is to ask the "voter" to help have some nonsense removed from the New Jersey statute books. Why laws should be enacted to depreciate farm values and to prevent an important food producing industry we fail to understand.

In Massachusetts ladies as well as voters are permitted to rear all sorts of game on their farms and to sell the food. There is no charge for the license and the State game department which encourages the industry has become of great economic importance. Pheasants and other game are sold and eaten and the shooting throughout the State has been much improved.

The Necessity for Breeding Stock.

One of our readers says: "I have been pointing out the injustice of allowing the man who pays a license to go out and kill his bag limit, and the laws provide that that is the only way he can get the birds (kill them), but they will not allow him to take live birds instead.

The state surely can get some great benefit from any birds taken alive, but it will never increase the bird supply by saying that the hunter must kill his game.

I have spread the right argument all over the state, and it is beginning to receive due consideration. Your booklet, "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure," issued by the Hercules Powder Company, has done the work, and I am certainly grateful to you and to the Hercules people for the six hundred or so that I have distributed.

"More" Rabbits for Allies.

Five hundred thousand rabbits which will furnish food for the allies' armies comprised a part of the cargo of the British steamer Cumberland which arrived here (Norfolk, Va.) today from Wellington, N. Z., to coal. The ship is en route to Liverpool.—*The Globe, N.Y.*

MORE GAME AND FEWER GAME LAWS.

IN CAPTIVITY.

By S. V. REEVES, and J. W. TALBOT, with Comment by the Editor.

O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as others see us!
It wad frae monie a blunder free us,
And foolish notion.

State Ownership.

By S. V. REEVES.

Some points that you have made in your article on pages 169 and 170 of the September issue will not bear the test of analysis. Your reference to the old Roman laws does not in reality help your contention. You say the State owns the game?—When? Why, if at all, when it is in a wild state (?) However, this contention has never been positively settled. It may be of interest to some of your readers to show the actual operation of this law as involving a general principle. For instance, bees in the forests might be taken by anyone if they were not under the control and management of the owner of the land. In that state of non-control or immediate supervision they were as much the property of the State as the game in question. Of course, the element of trespass is never lacking. After the bees have been hived or brought under the control of the person taking them and the same placed on his premises they become his property—free from the control of the State (their former owner (?)). While they are now confined (?) they have the same freedom as before, but the State has no more jurisdiction over such property than it has over your poultry, and that same Roman law applied precisely to other animal life, under the same conditions, as it did to bees. Right here we must consider the term “in captivity.” This, correctly stated, means under direct supervision and control; not necessarily enclosed by fences, pens, etc.

We have no desire to wage a fight with the State over the question of game in a wild state, providing “wild state” is properly defined. To consider game

reared on one's premises with a direct purpose and supervision; by “domestic enterprise” (if you please), is a positive abridgement of a constitutional right, and the espionage resulting from such a contention is most offensive. In this connection much of my former article defining the policing of game in the wild state could be cited to advantage. However, I do not have it handy for reference at this moment.

Personally I regret that the Game Breeder does not take a positive stand against the license and tag nuisance. When we ask to be rid of this annoyance and injustice we have not failed to show the State how it can at the same time protect the game in the wild state.

[The United States Supreme Court has decided that the State owns the game and that it can regulate the taking of it. Many State statutes declare that the ownership of game is in the State.

We have pointed out often that the State should not and probably does not own the game produced by industry. The trouble has been that State game officers have in many cases taken the idea of State ownership too seriously, and unfortunately the courts have upheld them when people have been arrested for selling pheasants and other game, even in cases when the stock birds and eggs were imported from foreign countries.

The first game breeders' bill introduced in New York, the Lupton bill, was written by the editor of *The Game Breeder*. It was held up, and, in answer to a letter, the author of the bill informed the writer that the State Game Department was opposed to permitting game breeding, and that its influence was sufficient to prevent the passage of the bill.

It was only by the combined efforts of the hotel men, the game dealers and some intelligent sportsmen that it was possible to amend a subsequent bill prohibiting the sale of game so as to permit breeders to sell pheasants, ducks and deer under regulations which have since been modified. The license, \$25, has been reduced to \$5. The “otherwise than by shooting” nonsense has been repealed also. If you realized how hard it was to get anything done

you would appreciate the fact that compromises were necessary and that it seemed desirable to get what was possible, instead of getting nothing.

We believe from now on legislators and courts will be more favorable to game breeders. We are in favor of the utmost freedom and encouragement. There is a difference between game and poultry. There are many who believe, for the present at least, the game sold in the markets as food should be identified. There is not a sporting paper in America that openly advocates the sale of game as food. With these facts in mind, we hope you will agree that we have been doing the best we could in the interest of harmony and progress. We have been told repeatedly by legislators and others who have the power to defeat us that we must at the outset agree to stricter regulations than would obtain later. We have preferred to work harmoniously with those who seem to be strong enough to defeat all progress than not to get any legislation favorable to the breeders' industry.

We have refused to be muzzled when outrages have been perpetrated on game breeders in the name of the law. We have raised money to protect the innocent when attacked, and we shall continue to do so. Mr. Talbot has secured a law which is eminently satisfactory to breeders who have game "in captivity." If this covers all game bred wild in inclosed fields, so long as it remains on the premises, and if such game can be sold as food in other States, and the law proves to be satisfactory, it no doubt will be copied in other States.

The Game Breeder is the proper place for discussions about amendments to encourage game breeding. We believe the discussions can be carried on without ill-feeling. The magazine is open even to those who may see fit to denounce it for going too fast or too slow. We hope to see all interested in the important subject acting in harmony. We are glad to publish your interesting letter, and we hope it will lead to others which may tend to settle the questions relating to the ownership and sale of game by breeders.—Editor.]

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[We hope our readers, especially those who are interested in amending the game laws in the interest of breeders, will read the following interesting communication from Mr. John Talbot, president of The Bird Society. We are always glad to print both sides of any question. We desire, above all things, to be fair. The only difference between Mr. Talbot and The Game Breeder is one of method. We are quite sure there is a legal difference between game and poultry where game is bred wild in the fields and that the breeders do well to submit to reasonable regulations a license without charge or for a nominal amount. If there is no difference legally between game and poultry, Mr. Talbot clearly is right. If there is such difference there would seem to be good grounds for reasonable regulations, especially in a country where

there is a strong sentiment against the sale of wild game legally taken. Many able lawyers and judges read The Game Breeder, and we shall be glad to hear from some of them on this point.—Editor.]

BY JOHN W. TALBOT.

Here are my views of an article in The Game Breeder entitled "A Money Making Industry." Mr. Huntington objects to the words "in captivity" in the Indiana law, which reads: "All birds and animals reared and bred in captivity shall be considered domestic fowls and stock, and the owner or raiser thereof may keep, sell, ship, transport or otherwise dispose of them, and the same shall not be affected or covered by the laws prohibiting or regulating the killing or disposition of birds and animals grown or propagated in a wild state." He does not understand the legal meaning of "captivity." The dictionary says captivity means "subject to domination or control." Captivity is a synonym of subjection, and an antonym of "freedom" and "independence." In the days of slavery the courts held that although a slave be permitted unshackled to go on errands for his master, even at a great distance, he was nevertheless in "bondage" and therefore in "captivity." New York courts have held that a swarm of bees is in captivity although the individual bees roam all over the countryside away from their owner's property. Friend Huntington says: ". . . There is a decided difference between game and poultry." The difference, he might have added, is one of structure and is anatomical. There is no difference between poultry ownership and game ownership. Occasionally there is born a cow with five legs and a five-legged cow is different from a four-legged cow, but no person would urge the State to require the owner to obtain a license to keep the five-legged cow. Brother Huntington says "the idea that the State owns the game has been given prominence by the courts in America." Truly. It has been given prominence by the courts everywhere. Courts have given prominence to the idea also that the State owns Huntington and can take

him whenever it gets ready. The courts also hold consistently that the State owns all trees and all lands. Brother Huntington's article shows lack of legal understanding of the proposition, so his attempted differentiation between ownership of poultry and the State ownership of game along legal lines amounts to nothing. And therefore there is no merit to his further statement that in the light of the State's ownership of game it seems reasonable to require that those who rear game exactly similar in appearance to State game should list themselves as licensed breeders and identify the game they send to the public markets, for it would be just as reasonable indeed to require a homesteader who reduced public land to possession to put a tag on it when he sold a load of building sand. . . . He says game bred in a wild state on enclosed farms is more easily stolen and disposed of than poultry. If he means that a pheasant raised in captivity in Indiana could be stolen and marketed more easily, and its marketing would excite less attention and suspicion in the absence of a tag, than the marketing of a chicken would excite, he is talking nonsense. The more scarce an article is the more attention the marketing of it will attract. Chickens are more common than game birds. Chickens are more easily obtained than game birds. Therefore the offering of a chicken for sale would occasion less comment and attract less notice than would the offering for sale of something more valuable, like a pheasant, and therefore if tagging has any virtue as a preventative of larceny it is more necessary in the case of chickens than in the case of pheasants. The charge of 50 cents a year in Ohio, two dollars in Iowa and twenty-five dollars in California, payment of which is required of every person who augments the State's wealth by propagating game is an interference with liberty. Requiring a game raiser to obtain a permit is as wrong as requiring him to buy a license to engage in game raising. A law requiring a license tends to bring about the extinction of wild life, because it tends to prevent and always

discourages game raising. In Indiana where no such permit is required, if a farmer's wife finds a sick quail, she cares for and raises birds from it, or liberates it after it is well. If, before feeding it and perhaps putting a splint on its broken leg, she had to wait for the rural carrier, send a letter to the Game Commissioner, pay a license fee, get a permit and buy a tag, she would "let the bird go." We said in "Game Laws and Game," "It is only by keeping game and game birds that their habits can be studied and that intelligence can be used in determining the best methods of feeding, rearing and propagating their kind. The persons who make that study usually do it without the expectation of financial reward. They do it because their intelligence interests them in life of all kinds. They devote time and observation to this study which results in untold wealth to the State, and any law which discourages them or forbids such study by requiring that they obtain a license—is a law to bring about the extinction of game, because you cannot expect one to devote time and attention to such study and work if he is compelled to obtain a license and to unwind red tape and to pay a fee and buy tags to enable him to do the work without being fined—a man who wishes to rear wild game should be permitted and encouraged to do it. He should not be hampered or discouraged by any law * *." Friend Huntington continues, "Fruit farmers often use expensive labels to identify their fruit and to advertise their farms." Therefore, "the game farmer should be willing to put inexpensive labels * * * on the game he sends to market." Mr. Post of Battle Creek spends thousands of dollars advertising a breakfast food and therefore a farmer who raises corn should be compelled to put a label on every sack he sells. Mr. Gillette puts out fancy labels to advertise his razors and Armours use colored posters to work up business for their packing industry and to sell hams, and therefore a woman who raises a chicken in her back yard should be compelled to buy an "inexpensive" tag and place it on

a chicken if she sells it. To say the least, that reasoning is childish. And equally puerile is friend Huntington's statement, "We should remember that the game breeding history in America is young," and the conclusion on that account that the law should require everybody who wants to raise game to get a permit. The idea of leading a moral Christian life is also young to some people and therefore, according to Huntington's reasoning, one should get permission from the Game Commissioner before he permits himself to get religion. Brother Huntington says men who like to eat game are quite ready to pay the extra price which one must add if he has to pay for a State license. Where did you get that idea, Brother Huntington? Your trouble is that the pheasants raised by you are raised with ink on the top floor of a New York office building. Practical pheasant raisers who really rear and sell pheasants that go to the table to be eaten know that no man willingly pays more than necessary for anything. And therefore your statement that men will be willing to pay more for a game bird to A because he is required to buy a license from the State than they must pay to B who pays no license, on your own sober second thought I am certain you will withdraw. You also say if the breeder can get an excellent insurance against theft by paying a few dollars for a handful of tags, he is not damaged much. Where does the breeder get that insurance? The tag does not prevent theft. The tag does not discourage theft. The State does not indemnify the breeder who buys a tag if his game is stolen. Your argument that it is more difficult to secure a really proper law that will permit the rearing of game without any license, permission or tagging could just as well be applied against the argument that man should lead a clean life. According to your reasoning it would be much better for doctors to suggest to people that they be only cleanly one day a month because it requires less effort to be cleanly one day a month than it does to keep clean all the month. You say in the same article, "It is an outrage to

charge \$25.00 a year for a game raiser's license as they do in California." If it is wrong to charge \$25.00, why is it right to charge a cent? This is not a matter of degrees or amount; it is a matter of principle. The difficulty is that you have departed from first principles; you have failed to note the conclusions of great economists. Bishop, the great law writer, once said, "The principles that underlie all legal reasoning are comparatively few, but the instances that depend on them are numberless. Therefore the careful lawyer will learn the rules and how to apply them and let the instances take care of themselves. Conforming to Bishop, I refer Brother Huntington to the "Wealth of Nations," written by the great economist, Adam Smith, more than a century ago. He said: "The natural effort of every individual to better his own condition, when suffered to exert itself with freedom and security, is so powerful a principle, that it is, alone, and without any assistance, not only capable of carrying on society to wealth and prosperity, but of surmounting a hundred impertinent obstructions with which the folly of human laws too often encumbers its operations."

More About "In Captivity."

Mr. Talbot says we do not understand the meaning of the words, "in captivity." We think we do.

It is decided in the slave case, relied upon by Mr. Talbot, that the ownership of the slave continued even when the slave was far from the immediate control of his master.

For the benefit of the non-legal reader I may say that the writ of replevin issues when anyone files an affidavit stating the ownership of personal property of any kind and the object is to secure the immediate possession of one's property before the suit is tried. The plaintiff is required to give a bond to satisfy the possessor of the property in the event that the suit is decided in his favor or that the claim of ownership is not sustained.

Because a slave in the time of slavery or a horse, cow or any personal property

at the present time can be taken in replevin by the owner before the suit is decided, it does not follow that a grouse or a quail or other game bird, reared in a wild state in a field where it has been introduced by the owner, can be taken in replevin if it departs from the field and from the control the owner of the game may have had over it by reason of feeding it and caring for it while it remained in the place where he introduced it, or where he may have placed the eggs and hatched the game.

It has been decided that a deer which escaped from a park might be deemed to be "in captivity" so long as the keeper was in close pursuit and able to identify it. The "captivity" vanished and the ownership ceased when the deer joined others in the woods or was lost to sight and was said to have again become *ferae naturae*.

All legal writers and all judges who have passed on game and its ownership, and the "in captivity" question, say that the ownership of game is a "qualified ownership," and that such ownership easily may be ended, as when the game wandered from the premises.

The ownership of the slave was and the ownership of poultry and domestic animals is not a "qualified ownership," but an absolute ownership. Such animals may be followed and retaken in replevin just as slaves were. We agree that in all cases where the ownership is absolute that Mr. Talbot is right in his ideas of "in captivity." The ownership continues no matter where the personal property, "absolutely owned," may wander and it may be said always to be "in captivity." This is not true, however, of partridges, deer or other game. The ownership easily is lost; the "in captivity" easily is terminated.

Mr. Talbot, no doubt, had in mind his Golden or Lady Amhurst pheasant in a pen. There are decisions that if a comparatively rare animal, unusual to a neighborhood, escapes from captivity it may still be considered to be "in captivity" when found wandering in a wild state in a wood where easily it is recognized. A quail having wandered into the

field or wood, where many similar birds live, certainly no longer is "in captivity;" the ownership is as surely ended as is the ownership of wild fowl which fly out to public waters from the pond where they were bred by industry and where they were "in captivity" so long as they kept returning to the home pond.

A giraffe escaping to mingle with cattle on an adjoining field and a prairie grouse or quail escaping from the owner's field are quite different in so far as the "in captivity" doctrine is applied. The monkey of the organ-grinder which has slipped his collar was cited at another time by Mr. Talbot as illustrating his claim that an escaping animal was still "in captivity." The ownership of the monkey was absolute. The monkey was easily identified. There are many decisions about bees. So long as they go and come from and to a hive they may be said to be owned and in captivity. When they swarm and depart in a body the ownership still may remain, as in the case of the deer, so long as the bees are in sight and the owner is in pursuit of them. The ownership ends when the bees are lost in the woods, although they may probably be seen again in a place where there are similar objects.

If this is a "lack of legal understanding," as Mr. Talbot says, we would seem to have the same failing which Blackstone had and which lawyers and courts have had from his time to the present.

We still think that partridges in a field at a distance from a house are more in danger of being netted and stolen than poultry is when housed near a residence where a watch dog is on hand. We still believe that pheasants can be more easily taken by poachers when roosting in a wood at a distance from the protected poultry yard, than the poultry can be taken. We believe more game than poultry is stolen where both are plentiful. This may be because the game is more valuable. In the older countries the license regulations are applied to the game dealers who are strictly held to account. Here again we find a difference between the management of game and poultry. Nothing would suit the writer

better than to see the safeguards applied at this end in America, but there are many who believe, for the present at least, such regulations are not enough. As to Mr. Talbot's statement that building sand should not be identified, the ownership of the sand is absolute and not a qualified ownership.

As to his idea that we have reared pheasants only in an office, we may say that we have reared many of these birds single-handed and thousands of them with the aid of skilled keepers who know probably more about this industry than either Mr. Talbot or the writer ever will know. We have reared thousands of wild ducks also and we have seen hundreds of them depart to be legally shot by others in the neighborhood because the qualified ownership was lost. Poultry could not be so shot.

We have feared that the words "in captivity" might be held to mean that grouse and quail which left the rearing field and no longer came to feed and no longer were in control, although still on the premises of the owner, would be held to have returned to a wild state, and that the qualified ownership was lost. This is a serious matter to sportsmen since if such birds become subject to the bag limit laws, providing that only

a very few birds can be taken in a season, and to the open season laws, which in some States make very short seasons during cold, rainy weather, it will not be worth while to produce grouse or quail or to own a bird dog. We fear there would be objections to the sale of such game.

We would like to ask Mr. Talbot if a grouse or quail, which has left the rearing field and returned to a wild state, can be taken in replevin as poultry can be taken, or if the "qualified ownership" has been lost.

We would like to ask him if such game under the "in captivity" law he cites can be shot at any time and in any numbers and if such game can be sold as food in his State and shipped to New York? If we are right in our ideas of "in captivity," the breeding of our native game in the best manner may still be illegal. Those who breed pheasants in inclosures and who are content to kill them "otherwise than by shooting," of course, have nothing to fear.

The industry of breeding duck, pheasants and deer, "in captivity," is thriving in many states. Vast numbers are produced annually. We propose to encourage grouse and quail breeding for sport and for profit, and we hope to see the game bred wild in protected fields.

THE CASE OF MARY RAHLMAN.

We published last month an account of the interference of a California game officer with the excellent work of a member of our society in breeding quail. The officer informed Miss Rahlman, who had reared seventy-five quail, that this was too many; that he only could permit her to have "a limited number."

Here are some additional facts which are especially interesting, since they suggest losses of quail eggs due to irrigation. Such losses must be large in regions where irrigation is common, and if the California laws prohibit the hatch-

ing of eggs taken from irrigation water after the hen quail has been obliged to desert them, such laws certainly should be repealed, and in the meantime they might well be forgotten. The people certainly would not approve of arresting and jailing a woman for such industry.

The facts as written to The Game Breeder by Miss Rahlman are as follows:

"Last fall Mr. Pritchard, Game Commissioner of Los Angeles, visited our place. My brother and I have a pheasant farm where we raise hundreds of pheasants. My brother being absent, I

showed him around the place and told him we were desirous of obtaining other varieties of game birds. He spoke very encouragingly and liberally, saying that they (the Commissioners) were anxious to encourage and not to hinder game breeding. He told me to just go ahead and get whatever we wanted and then let him know, and he would fix it up all right for us (to which I have a good witness).

Consequently, last Spring we secured a number of quail eggs and after we had seventy-five fine, thrifty little California valley quail nicely started we sent in an application for a permit.

We obtained part of our eggs from people who keep quail in their aviaries, they holding the necessary permits for keeping quail.

Other eggs were taken in a field which is irrigated. I took 16 eggs from a nest in an apricot orchard (the orchard being under irrigation), the owner giving me permission to do so. Seventeen eggs were given me by a man who was irrigating, the eggs having already been covered by water. Fourteen eggs were taken by my brother, the owner of the field giving his permission. These eggs also had been covered by irrigation water which caused the mother quail to desert the nest.

Two weeks ago some men, who were fumigating orange trees caught two quail under the fumigating tent and gave them to us. They would have been killed if left under the fumigating tent. They now are in our possession.

We have hundreds of visitors at our pheasant farm and every week people are asking to buy quail, but our hands are tied by the game commissioners. The only liberty the game breeders of California have is the liberty of free speech.

You may publish all or any part of this.

Yours for more game,

MARY RAHLMAN.

Subscribe to THE GAME BREEDER, \$1.00
a Year.

Correspondence in the Rahlman Case.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.
Los Angeles, Cal., August 3, 1916.

Rahlman & Rahlman,

Dear Sirs:

Your letter of August 2 at hand, and I see by your letter that the game farming business is "booming." I am afraid there are some disappointments in store for yourselves and others as well. It will be impossible for you to start a game farm with these 75 quail that you now have in your possession. You will remember that when I had the conversation with you on this matter I told you that you would have to get your start from without the boundaries of the State. The eggs given you by parties irrigating were wild eggs and belong to the people of the State as a whole, and the eggs taken from private aviaries cannot be used to stock your game farm, because all permits given to people owning private aviaries read, "for propagation purposes only," and are not to be used in a commercial way, as those birds are the property of the State simply held by various people for scientific, educational and propagation purposes.

We are of the opinion that you will be wasting time and money in feeding 75 quail for this purpose, and we cannot give you a permit to capture mountain quail, if you want them for the same purpose.

The pheasants are a different matter entirely, as there are no pheasants native to California.

We are willing to give you a permit for a limited number of valley quail if you desire them for exhibition purposes.

We will be pleased to hear from you further in this matter.

Yours truly,

Fish and Game Commission,
H. G. Pritchard,
Assistant.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.
Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 8, 1916.

Rahlman & Rahlman,

Gentlemen:

Your letter of August 5 at hand. We will thank you if you will give us the names and addresses of any person or persons who have offered quail or quail eggs for sale.

We are sorry that you do not seem to understand the law which we have tried to explain to you. Even if you had a breeder's license now we could not give you a permit for the quail in question. You should have notified this office when you secured these eggs; you did not do so. You now have quail in your possession illegally.

In other words, when this law was passed there was no provision made for the securing of the stock, and it was understood that the stock for the various farms should be secured from without the boundaries of the

State. We have refused permits to all holders of breeder's licenses.

Yours truly,

Fish and Game Commission,
H. G. Pritchard,
Assistant.

At this stage of the game (August 10) Miss Mary Rahlman wrote to M. F. Newbert, president of the Fish and Game Commission, Sacramento, California, asking for a permit to keep 75 quail for exhibition purposes. She informed the commission that she had written to Mr. Pritchard asking for a permit, and that he only wanted to permit her to keep a limited number, while she wished to keep the seventy-five.

She signed the letter,

MARY RAHLMAN,

Member of the Game Conservation Society.

August 21, 1916; H. G. Pritchard, Assistant, wrote to Miss Rahlman, from Los Angeles as follows:

"Your letter of August 10th, written to Mr. F. M. Newbert, of Sacramento, has been referred to this office, as this office has charge of all fish and game matters in Southern California.

"Now, in this late letter you ask for a permit to keep 75 quail for exhibition purposes. In your letter of August 5, addressed to us, you ask for a permit to keep these 75 quail, stating that next year you would apply for a game breeder's license. This would naturally lead us to believe that you expect to use the birds in question to stock your proposed game farm.

"We will give you a permit for these birds

FOR EXHIBITION PURPOSES ONLY under the following conditions:

"That you do not dispose of any of the birds by selling, trading or bartering without written permission from this commission, and render to us, at any time we may wish, an accounting of the birds you have in your possession.

"If this is satisfactory to you we will issue a permit as above stated, but we cannot permit you or any one else to start a game farm for profit with the native birds of this State, as you informed me, on my visit, that it was your intention to start a game farm."

The Permit.

August 24, 1916, the following permit was issued to Miss Mary Rahlman and her brother:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

In accordance with law, permission is hereby granted to Rahlman & Rahlman to keep in captivity, for exhibition purposes only, 75 Valley Quail; the same not to be disposed of without written permission from the Fish and Game Commission.

By order of the Board.

Fish and Game Commission,
M. J. Connell,
Commissioner.

It is to be hoped that the California laws soon will be amended to permit breeders to breed and sell all species of game. If a license is required there should be no charge for it. The law should also provide for the taking of stock birds and eggs for propagation purposes by reputable game farmers who undertake to breed and sell game. It is a pity the Fish and Game Commission is compelled to execute absurd laws.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

Good Shooting.

We would advise our readers to write to Mr. Jasper White, Waterlily, about the good shooting there. We have heard that this is a most interesting place to shoot, and readers can learn much about the wild duck foods, since Mr. White is a large dealer in Sago pond weed and others. It is an easy trip by boat or rail to Norfolk, Virginia, and from there it is a short sail to Waterlily.

The sportsman will see on the journey the famous Ragged Island Club and

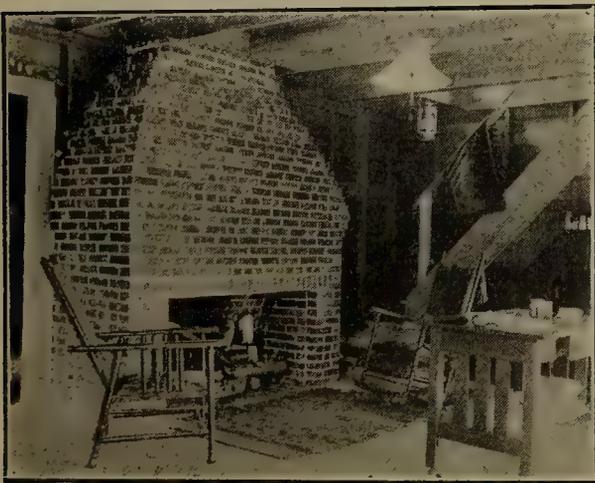
many other good duck clubs, and he will surely have a good time and good shooting at Waterlily. Mr. White's advertisement is on the classified page.

More Muskrats.

The muskrat farmers of Wisconsin took 58,435 of these animals during the year ending June 30. This is the first year under the new Wisconsin law providing for this industry. The farmer doing the largest business reported the sale of 12,125 muskrat hides for \$5,303.60.



The Wapshontas Bungalow



Wapshontas Interior

A NEW IOWA CLUB.

By E. M. SHARON.

I am sending you pictures of the Wapshontas bungalow. Our work has been getting ready so far. We bought some Mallards to start on, and are now looking for a gamekeeper.

We are planting our lakes and ponds with wild rice and potamogetons. The state warden has offered us some wild Mallards as soon as we can take care of them. Quite a number of the farmers in that neighborhood are breeding pheasants and wild ducks. We have a splendid crop of quail on the preserve

and we intend to take care of them during the winter.

We have used the premises considerably during the past summer. Most of our members spend their vacations there. It is very convenient to drive out, get dinner and return the same evening or early the next morning, as it is only twenty-five miles and a splendid road at most all seasons. We have furnished the bungalow entirely by personal contributions, with easy chairs, tables, piano, talking machine, bed-room furniture, etc.

A Simple Wild Duck Trap.

Captain Aymer Maxwell, an English authority on game birds, says: "After all the ingenuity that has been expended on the making of duck decoys, intricate in design, costly to construct and maintain, it is interesting to find that wild duck may be caught by far easier means. Hard by the fine duck decoy at Netherby, carefully planned with its seven pipes of approved pattern, there stands an unpretentious wire cage, which any one could knock together in one hour, using no more costly material than a few bits of wood, a strip of wire netting, hammer and nails. One side of this simple pen lifts up, and a cylinder of wire netting, open at both ends, and wide

enough to allow free passage to a duck, lies on the ground, leading from the open side to the center of the pen. For ten days or so the ducks feed gloriously in the open pen, working all round and through the cylinder; then the open side is let down, covering all but the opening of this tube. With evening comes the flight of ducks; they have been used to passing through the innocent looking tube of wire netting with impunity, and soon the pen is full. When, however, they wish to depart, to look for an exit in the center of the pen never seems to occur to them, and they wander disconsolately up and down the walls of their prison until with morning comes Mr. Bell, duck keeper at Netherby and originator of this ingenious device, to count his captives, cut the wings of those which are to be given their lives, and alas! to wring the necks of the rest, whose ignominious end is a prelude to their appearance in the market."

The wild duck decoy referred to is an elaborate trap often with many tubes, into which ducks are decoyed and taken in large numbers for the markets. The decoy is fully described in the book, "Our Wild Fowl and Waters," published by The Game Conservation Society and advertised in The Game Breeder.

Two game keepers, formerly at Netherby, are now employed by game breeding clubs in America and use the trap not only to catch their ducks, but also to trap pheasants and other game birds. When the trap is used for quail and grouse it would seem desirable to stretch a string netting below the wire roof to prevent the birds injuring themselves by flying against the wire when alarmed. The trap should be visited often, since the birds are much exposed to ground vermin after they are captured.

Editor The Game Breeder:

I am sending you a story about my wild ducks. My birds are the pure wild variety. I have no pictures that would print well, but I will send you some as soon as I can.

W. R. HINDE.

[We are sure our readers will be interested in what you write. Have a professional photographer make a few pictures of the

ducks—two or three—and send us the bill. Pictures always add to any account of game breeding.—Editor.]

The Wild Duck Trouble.

In the August number is an article, "A New Duck Trouble." I have had the same thing with both wild and tame ducks. I believe it is caused by keeping the ducks without water deep enough to get their heads in. As anyone knows who has kept ducks, they are ravenous feeders and often they get the food in their eyes, especially if it is a mash food; and if they do not have access to water deep enough to get their whole heads in and wash the food out, some is liable to stay there and a cheesy lump will form about it. As soon as the swelling is noticed the duck should be caught and this substance removed. It will generally come out with a rubbing towards the eye; then wash with Boric acid a couple of times a day until well. I believe if taken in hand as soon as noticed there should be no loss of life. If this applies to Mr. Shaw's ducks, I trust it will set him right.

H. A. BOIES.

Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Wild Ducks Over-abundant.

Editor Game Breeder:

We raised quite a few Mallard ducks, but have been unable to find a market for them, so I am just about in the notion of discontinuing trying to raise any more Mallards. I would like to place the ducks that I have on hand, and will give some one a bargain on them.

U. R. F.

Indiana.

[Mallards are getting to be quite abundant in many places, but an advertisement in The Game Breeder will sell your birds. The New York market is now open to the sale of mallards reared in other States, and we are sending you instructions how to sell the birds in New York, if you prefer to sell them as food. The birds became plentiful so rapidly that had it not been for the opening of the New York market many would have stopped breeding mallards. We heard recently of another breeder who quit breeding mallards, but he will start again on a large scale. These ducks are advertised on another page.—Editor.]



What Club is This?

What Club is This?

While visiting a shooting and fishing club recently, the small boy who appears in the picture said he knew where there was another club, and since it was a bright, sunny day, but cool enough to make a trip by boat enjoyable, we set out through the marshy water-ways to visit the club. No one was at home and the boy said the club would not be opened for a few weeks, when the duck shooting opened. If any of our readers know this club we shall be glad to hear from them. Meantime we shall get a list of the members, since it seems proper for them to have *The Game Breeder*.

Poison for Crows: Effect on Poultry and Game.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has asked experts in universities and colleges of the state to inform the department if strychnine will kill crows and not affect chickens and game birds.

A communication from Harrisburg, Pa., to *The World*, N. Y., says: "The State Live Stock Sanitary Board stirred up the question by sending out a notice

urging that crows be exterminated and giving instructions as to the use of the poison.

"Some people wanted to know if chickens would be harmed by it. The board officials replied that they would not, and told of the result of an experiment by one man who had written to the department that he had fed strychnine in corn to brown leghorn chickens and that they had not minded it a bit.

"When he threw it out for the crows to eat he had to send out burial parties. On the other hand, quail did not seem to mind it a particle."

Prairie Grouse Breeding in Minnesota.

Mr. Charles F. Stewart, in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune*, reports the grouse experiment at the game breeding farm, Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota: "But as to the prairie chickens, that's a story of bad luck and misfortune. Last winter state game wardens were ordered to trap prairie chickens for the league. The wardens trapped, but they sent in only 12 hens out of some 45 birds. This was not a desirable division of sexes and the hawks and owls of early spring made it worse by nabbing six of the twelve

hens before the snow was well off the ground.

"It was at first thought that some of the chickens would be left to nest in the wild and some kept in restraint so that their eggs could be placed under barnyard hens. But with the disappearance of 6 of the 12 hens, it was decided to put all the eggs under domestic hens. The barnyard hens proved too heavy for the prairie fowl eggs and a number were broken. The bantams were so scarce that they were all kept on quail eggs. Even after the young prairie chickens were hatched it seemed as if the trouble had only started. These birds, when young, showed themselves more susceptible to disease than any of the other varieties. The damp ground gave them colds and croup and it seemed as if no food quite met the requirements of their stomachs. In fact, it was proved to Mr. Blair's satisfaction that Big Island is too damp a place for the rearing of prairie chickens. One by one the birds died off or fell victims of 'vermin,' in which class is put hawks, owls, weasels, skunks, cats and insects. The 'jiggers' got a lot of the birds.

"Today there are just three of this year's prairie chicken flock left and they have a weather eye on the sky all the time for the swooping hawks and owls.

"Quite a number of the old birds still are on hand, as they seem able to resist damp ground and cold nights.

"The prairie chicken venture does not look very good," said Mr. Blair. "But we have learned a lot by our experience of this year, and with proper ground could breed both the chickens and partridges in great numbers."

Quail Breeding in Minnesota.

Mr. Blair, in the interview quoted above, says: "The experience with these birds (quail) shows a better pro rata harvest than with any other kind of bird. Quail eggs were purchased and put under bantam hens. In addition to this, quite a number of quail were turned loose on one end of the island to do their own nesting.

"If there had been more bantams available there would have been a bigger

effort made to raise quail. But bantams are scarce. In fact, the league is now raising its own bantam hens. Both the quail left to do their own domestic business and the quail hatched out by the bantams have done nobly. Those raised by bantams are as tame as can be. When Keeper Daily starts off with his bucket of feed he need not whistle up his quail. They see him from afar and outdistance the old hen in reaching the 'supper man.'

"The quail raised in the wild are not so tame, but they probably have a sneaking liking for the keepers."

Cat Aftermath.

We have published much about the destruction of game by cats. Owen Jones, in his excellent book, "Ten Years of Game Keeping," says: "No decent keeper ever dreams of interfering with cats that don't poach."

Ferrets.

We invite our readers' attention to the advertisements of ferrets in this issue. Often we have had inquiries for ferrets and it is an advantage to our readers to know where they can purchase them. Rats are one of the worst enemies of wild ducks and other game on game farms and preserves and the ferrets are one of the best aids to game keepers and game farmers who would keep down the rats.

Do It Today.

We strongly advise all preserve owners, game keepers and game farmers to write to The Oneida Community, Ltd., Oneida, N. Y., and ask for their catalogue of traps, also for an illustrated booklet, "The Newhouse Trapper's Guide." The booklet is full of good stories about the fox and other enemies of game and how to trap them. We, of course, wish to give our new advertiser an idea that there are some game farms, game keepers and preserves in America. You will please us and get a good picture book about vermin if you will write as we suggest. Do it today. The address is Oneida Community, Ltd., Oneida, N. Y. Sign your letters and post cards, "Yours for more game."



By D. W. HUNTINGTON.

Prior to publishing a series of articles about the numerous enemies of game and how to control them, I wish to point out to sportsmen and farmers who are equally interested in this subject the importance of amending the laws in places where such amendments are necessary, so as to make it legal to trap injurious game and poultry enemies at any time on places where game or poultry are bred for profit.

It cannot be denied that certain game enemies are valuable on account of their fur and that many of them are beneficial in various ways. Certain hawks, for example, are said to be beneficial because they eat grasshoppers. These may well be protected in places where no game or poultry are reared, but the owner of a pheasantry or poultry yard should have the right to destroy them when they are observed doing considerable damage to the food he is engaged in producing. I have seen places where the pheasants were so tremendously abundant that there were not enough grasshoppers to go round.

Certain game enemies destroy mice, undoubtedly, but on places where game and poultry are reared the mice can be controlled with traps and terriers. I have seen terriers on game farms that were much faster in destroying both rats and mice than the most skilled hawk or owl.

In places where shooting has been prohibited for ten years or more, the deer have become abundant, largely be-

cause the wolves and other enemies do not occur, the deer often do damage to the farmer's grain and fruit trees. Laws protecting the deer have been amended in some places so as to permit the farmer to kill the deer when found injurious. Such statutes are in harmony with a very early decision in Massachusetts: the court acquitted a man without leaving the bench when it appeared that the deer he shot was doing damage.

I published the story some time ago of a man who was arrested by a game warden because he killed a mink after it had destroyed fifty-seven of his hens. The justice decided in favor of the game warden (wrongly, I think) and the owner of the hens elected not to pay the fine but to go to jail.

Such performances tend to bring the laws into contempt and there have been entirely too many such cases.

The owners of game and poultry are intelligent and industrious people. Easily they can be persuaded not to destroy species which are beneficial and harmless. They can not so easily be persuaded to harbor fur bearers or even deer in places where these animals destroy the profits of their industry.

Game farmers and poultrymen are not opposed to those who rear fur bearing animals for profit; they are not opposed to laws protecting any harmful species on public lands or on private

(Continued on page 25.)

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

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10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

F. R. PEIXOTTO, Treasurer,

J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary.

Telephone, Beekman 3685.

We hope that "some disappointments" for game breeders in California soon will be legislated out of existence. See the letter from the California game officer in "The Rahlman Case," printed in this issue.

=

The people of California should remember at all times that eggs taken from the water in an irrigated field, after the mother quail has been compelled to desert her nest, belong to the people, "as a whole." That it is wrong to have quail hatched from such eggs in possession for commercial purposes. See the Case of Mary Rahlman in this issue. Great are some of the game laws and some of those who execute them!

=

"We are of the opinion that you will be wasting time and money in feeding 75 quail."—California State game officer to Mary Rahlman. Hot stuff that!

=

The people, "as a whole," are beginning to learn why they no longer have quail on toast. The people, "as a whole," own the game, but some game officers believe they hold it in trust for those who shoot for fun and do not wish the people to have any game to eat even if it be produced by industry.

Truly said, the dean of American sportsmen, Charles Hallock, "We need a

revolution of thought and a revival of common sense."

"Those birds (quail) are the property of the state, simply held by various people for scientific purposes."

What can be more scientific than the preparation of a quail for the toast by a competent chef? "Man may live without knowledge, live without books; but civilized man can not live without cooks." See the Rahlman correspondence in this issue.

A WORD TO "THE PEOPLE AS A WHOLE."

We hope the people of California, "as a whole," will instruct their representatives when they assemble that it is high time to permit industrious breeders to take as many birds alive for propagation as the sportsmen are now permitted to destroy. Both are a part of the people "as a whole." It should not be legal to destroy and illegal to create. One trouble is that the state game officers seem to have mistaken game owned by individuals for game owned by the state. Some of the "people as a whole" would like to take their share of the state property alive instead of dead, in order that they may multiply the species and see that others of "the people as a whole" have a taste of the game they are said to own. Game is very good to eat. This suggests that all the game breeders' laws which have been enacted (the Talbot law as well as ours) are defective in that they do not make provision for the taking of stock birds by reputable breeders who soon will show thousands of birds on small areas if they be permitted to do so.

THE DISCUSSION OF DIFFERENCES.

We admire a man who differs with us and who says so in the magazine, where any one can discuss any subject interesting to game breeders.

We have a small opinion of a fellow who goes sneaking about misrepresenting the magazine and advising people not to read it or to advertise in it. We advise our readers to read what Mr.

Talbot says in this issue. He may be right. We may be wrong. We are quite sure we both want fewer and simpler laws and "more game." We hope to see the breeders pay nothing for a license, as they do in Massachusetts. We would prefer to see the license and regulations applied to the dealers as they are in other countries. We have doubted the possibility of putting our preference in the law books at present.

GAME BREEDING ACTIVITY.

As we anticipated, the opening of the New York market to game bred in other states has resulted in great activity throughout the country as the good news becomes known. Many new breeders are starting. Many old ones are increasing their output. All report a demand far exceeding the supply. Not a week passes without our helping some new breeders to start and often we help to create new game breeding clubs where the shooting will be lively. Observing the ratio of increase, we predict, without hesitation, that in three years America will be the biggest game producing country in the world.

TRAPS AND TRAPPING.

There is a big demand for information about traps and trapping. Vermin is reported very abundant everywhere and very destructive. We find it difficult to answer our mail about this subject. We shall run during the coming year a series of illustrated articles about trapping vermin, written by the best American and English writers.

THE CONTROL OF GAME ENEMIES.

In announcing an important series of articles about the control of game enemies, we wish to make it plain that The Game Breeder will treat this subject fairly. We are well aware that the indiscriminate destruction of even the species known to be harmful should not be tolerated. We believe that even some of the harmful species may be spared on game farms. We know, however, that game farming cannot be suc-

cessfully carried on unless the devouring hordes of enemies which are sure to gather where game is plentiful be controlled.

Often we have referred to the scientific fact that if we add to the checks to the increase of any species it surely will decrease in numbers and when the checks are serious the species becomes extinct. Game farmers can not afford to lose their eggs, their young game or their stock birds. They surely should not be compelled by law to entertain enemies which will put them out of business.

THE DEATH OF JUDGE D. C. BEAMAN.

Many of our readers must feel, as the writer does, that they knew Judge Beaman, although they never met him. He was the author of the first game breeders' bill, which became and is the law of Colorado. He informed us that the law worked satisfactorily not only in relation to game, but that the breeding and sale of trout had resulted in an abundance of this desirable food in the local markets "every day in the year."

Judge Beaman was an able lawyer, a lover of outdoor sport, and he became a member of one of the game and fish clubs which was organized under the law he secured. He strongly believed in the idea that we had too many laws and too little game and game fish. The progress of the "more game movement" in America largely has been due to his influence.

He was a member of the Game Conservation Society and he was much interested in The Game Breeder and its work. His endorsement of the magazine, printed on another page, was written and printed at a time when it seemed doubtful if game and fish breeding ever would be encouraged or permitted in many states. He was an earnest and able advocate of "one of the most important and coming industries of the nation." He lived to hear Charles Hallock announce that the victory had been won. We regret that he could not

live to see America become the biggest game producing country in the world, as it promises soon to be, largely on account of his work and influence.

American sportsmen and game breeders will read with sorrow the announcement of the death of Judge Beaman.

MORE MEMBERS.

We are quite sure our members will respond promptly to our suggestion for rapidly doubling the membership. Present indications are that "the new issue will be over-subscribed," as they say in the stock market. Two readers sent nine new subscribers last week, which will more than offset the inactivity of a member here and there.

Hand-rearing Quail.

Some of the pictures to illustrate the article about hand-rearing quail promised for this number did not arrive in time for reproduction; some were not as good as we hoped to get. The articles are ready for the printer and will be published in November. There will be working drawings for a quail brooder which has produced excellent results for two seasons, and some statistical matter of especial interest to sportsmen and commercial breeders.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor The Game Breeder:

My son secured a good position as game keeper through The Game Breeder, and I write to thank you for helping him get it.

M. FLANNERY.

Connecticut.

The Marshall Poultry Farm.

Editor The Game Breeder:

Enclosed find \$1.00 for The Game Breeder for another year. I wish to keep posted, if I do nothing else. At this place the wild ducks hatch fairly well with five drakes to thirty ducks, although I surmise that some of the purest Mallards do not lay at all.

After the young ducks are hatched, they are all right until they are about one week old. Then they begin to

dwindle and seem to get smaller and die one at a time. Some may last three or four weeks. I have all kinds of grain for poultry, ground, cracked and whole, but none of it seems to do. Anything that you can suggest will be welcome.

MARSHALL POULTRY FARM.

Iowa.

[Write to The Spratts Patent, Ltd., Newark, New Jersey, and ask them about their meal for young ducks and for their printed matter about how to rear them. We have reared thousands of ducks, using this food prepared as directed. When the young ducks can have access to shallow marsh water, in warm weather, we have found that they procured many water insects, young frogs, etc., and some green vegetation to supplement the artificial food. We raised several thousand ducks one season with hardly any loss on such ground, feeding the Spratts foods. The hens were confined in coops on the bank, wired against vermin, and a narrow wire in the edge of the water prevented the ducks from going to deep water. In warm weather the ducks will thrive, if given plenty of shade near the coops.]

FARMERS TAKE TO TRAP-SHOOTING.

Scarcity of Game in Many Quarters Has Caused Farmers to Make Use of Guns in Other Ways.

BY PETER P. CARNEY.

The other day a well-known agricultural publication man remarked, when told that farmers engaged in trapshooting, that he was putting that fact down as one thing he learned that day.

If farmers can be advancing so fast in modern methods and city pleasures that the agricultural press can't keep up with them, then it seems logical to admit that the city cousins who imagined all a farmer did "was work, eat and sleep" are just waiting for advice.

The fact is that along with other pleasures, farmers are taking an active interest in trapshooting. And why shouldn't they? Nearly all farmhouses have guns as a portion of their furniture. Nearly all farmers have done more or less shooting, but at the present time in many states game laws are so rigidly enforced that "open" seasons are very short. Hence clay targets are the victims of the guns.

As hardly any live settlement is now

without a trapshooting club, the shooting of clay targets also brings to the farmer social privileges. Here he meets men of all walks of life.

Of course, there may be a country or hunt club near his place, but he is timid about joining, even though he is worth as much as many of their members financially. He has, like many other farmers, attended the farmers' annual dinner at such clubs, but feels more at home at a cosmopolitan trapshooting club. On such occasions, however, he has surprised those present with his shooting ability. Only recently at an eastern hunt club, a clay pigeon shoot was held in connection with the annual dinner, for at this club the members are greatly enthused about trapshooting. The gentleman of the farm took the marksmanship honors.

It may not be the case that all farmers who can shoot are trapshooting club members. Some of them have purchased hand traps and have their shooting pleasures right on their own grounds, where wife, sons and daughters join in.

Investigation proves that farmers are participating in trapshooting and enjoying it very much.

[We are very strong for trap shooting and have helped organize several clubs. We also prefer an abundance of game to the scarcity referred to. Trap shooting and game shooting are found to go well together on the same ground. We recently visited a trap-shooting club made up largely of farmers. They have decided to have game also, and just beyond the trap there are fields full of pheasants, many quail and other game birds. We know the du Ponts have done a great service in encouraging trap shooting. We wish we had more space to give to this.]

—♦—
(Continued from page 21.)

lands where the owners see no reason for controlling them.

The rabbit, undoubtedly, is a valuable food animal and affords much health-giving sport to those who shoot it. It has been found necessary, however, to provide in many states protecting this animal that farmers may destroy them "when found injurious to crops."

Some states have provided for bounties on hawks and other game enemies.

The result is that gunners go forth to shoot hawks in the closed season and having the right to shoot hawks, many are tempted to shoot protected game. Beneficial hawks as well as the non-beneficial are known to be killed in states which have bounty laws.

By far the best plan is to protect valuable fur bearers and beneficial hawks and owls and to permit the game farmers and poultrymen to control harmful species on areas where large quantities of desirable food are reared and where the fur bearers are of no value to any one on account of trespass laws.

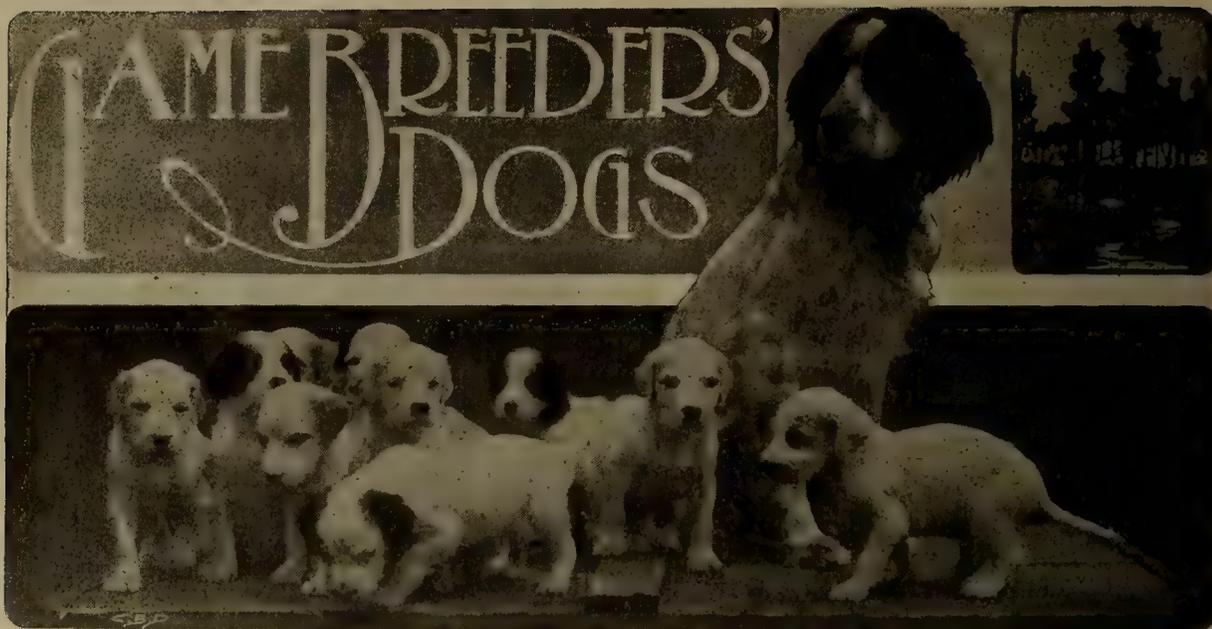
There are vast areas of wild and uninclosed lands which are the only lands where professional trappers should have the fur bearers protected in their interest.

The main trouble with our whole protective system is that it has prevented the profitable production of game and has attempted to compel land owners where crops, fruit and poultry are reared to entertain harmful vermin.

It cannot be denied that laws protecting game are desirable, and that laws protecting vermin of many kinds are desirable, they should, however, except those who wish to breed game from their preventive provisions as to the number which may be had in possession and the game produced by industry should of course be sold.

I hope to see the laws uniformly amended now that game breeding has become a big industry in America, so that no game farmer will be in danger of arrest because he traps the enemy which he finds destroying his game. I rely upon the farmers to help in securing the necessary amendments to laws which in many states are too restrictive. I hope it will be a long time before another farmer goes to jail for killing a four-footed robber of his hen roost.

A series of articles about how to control the enemies of game and poultry, written by the best experts, will be published in *The Game Breeder* beginning in the November issue. Game breeding is now a legal industry in nearly all of the states.



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THE GAME BREEDER, 150 Nassau Street, N. Y.

Shooting Clubs and Game Farms

The Game Breeder has assisted in the formation of many shooting clubs and game farms. We are preparing a booklet on this subject, containing testimonials. Those who desire information on either subject, or information about the new Game Breeders' laws, are requested to write to us. The service is free to those who state that they deal with advertisers in The Game Breeder and who are contributing members of The Game Conservation Society or subscribers to The Game Breeder. Letters should be addressed to the

Information Department of THE GAME BREEDER, 150 Nassau Street, New York

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THE GAME BREEDER

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GAME KEEPER
WANTS SITUATION—SKILLFUL PHEASANT and wild duck breeder. Best of references and good reason for wishing to leave present situation. Write for copies of recommendations. P. R. T., care Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

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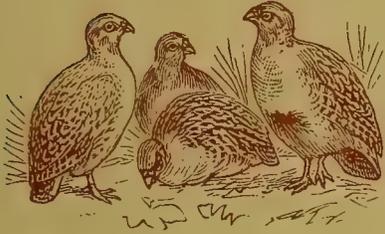
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X.

NOVEMBER, 1916

No. 2

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

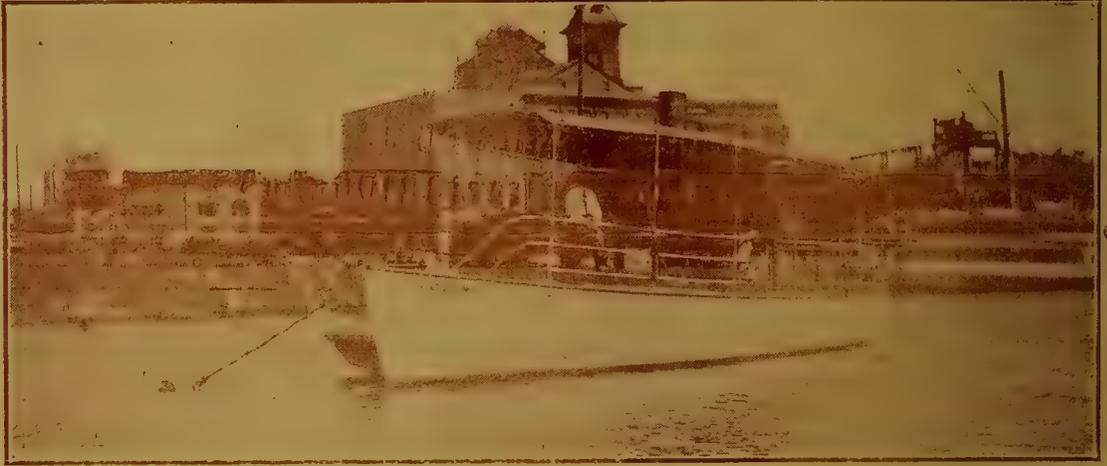
A SHORT STORY



I raised 150 Wild Mallards in my orchard this year.—Mahlon Hutchinson
—Finis.

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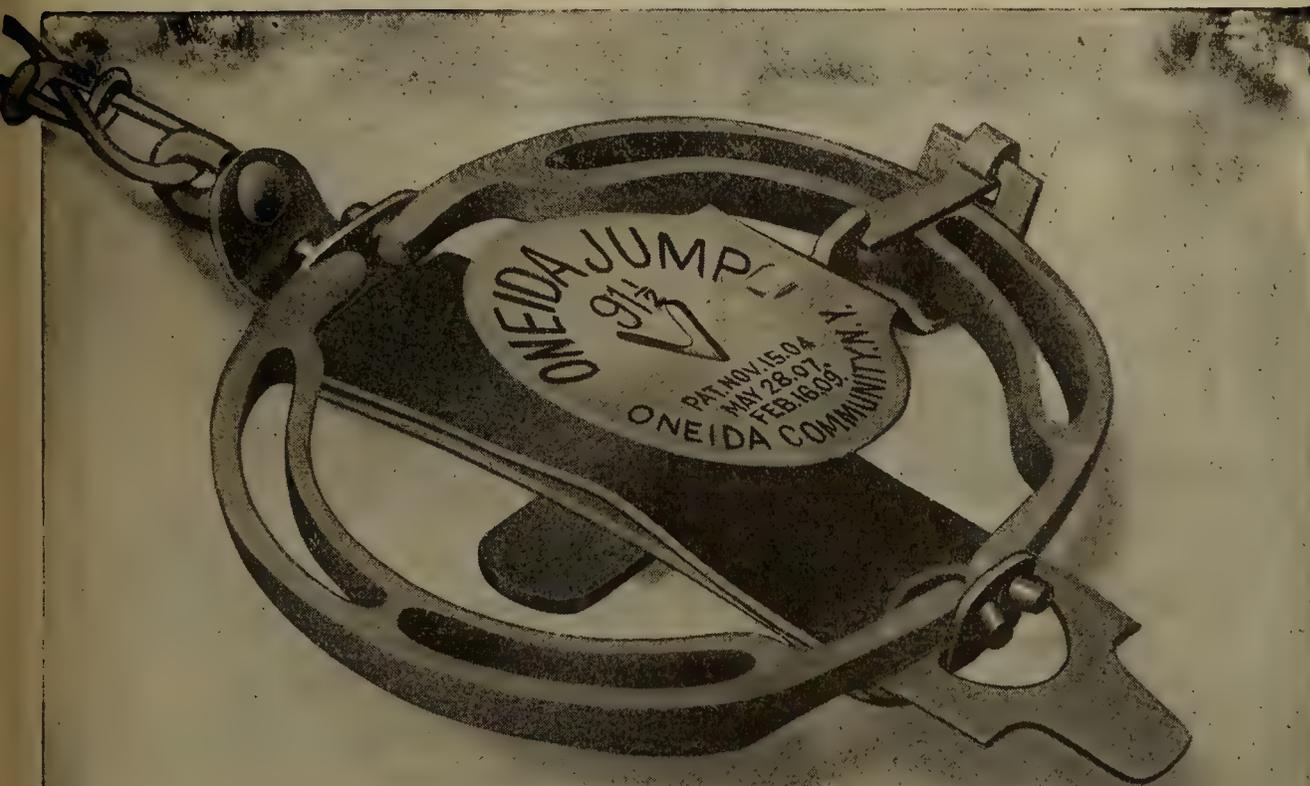
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Game Farming and Good Shooting

When you are out in the fields and woods with your shotgun this fall, or in the marshes waiting for the ducks, bear this fact in mind—*your sport would be much better if scientific game farming were conducted more extensively in this country.*

Game farming is being carried on much more extensively than formerly, especially during the past year. Evidence is plentiful to the effect that eventually we will pay as much attention to this important subject as have the people of Europe for many years. The wonderful grouse shooting in Scotland is one example of the results obtained there.

There are already many places in this country where good shooting is to be had in abundance due to scientific game breeding. It is quite possible that one or more of these is located within easy reach of your home. If you are interested we will gladly advise you regarding this, if we have the information in our files. If not we will tell you how to make good shooting in your locality and put you in touch with others who are interested in this.

May we suggest that you write for our booklet, "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure". It is well worth reading and sent free on request. Please use the coupon below.

When You Buy Loaded Shotgun Shells

How much do you know about the powder you shoot in the fields or at the traps? You should be thoroughly informed regarding it and specify a given powder when you buy shells.

If you will write us we will gladly tell you about the two Hercules Smokeless Shotgun Powders, Infallible and "E. C."

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HOW TO WIN

At the Traps

A. A. T. A. System Raises Averages 10%

We submit as proof that our system of shooting raises averages from 5% to 15% in a few months, the following shooting record of member Wm. J. McKagney, Blue Rock Gun Club, San Jose, California.



CAPT. WULF

Winner of 1916

G. A. H.

is an A. A. T. A.

Medal Shooter and predicted he would win. His confidence was doubtless based on the steadiness and improved average resulting from his A. A. T. A. Medal Shooting.

YEAR, 1916 BLUE ROCK GUN CLUB
Wm. J. McKagney, 685 S. 3d St., San Jose, California

No.	75% Medal		80% Medal		85% Medal		90% Medal			
	Date	%	Date	%	Date	%	Date	%	Date	%
1	2/13	90	4/16	92	5/14	96	5/14	92	8/13	94
2	2/13	76	4/16	82	5/14	96	5/18	90	8/13	94
3	3/5	78	4/13	86	5/14	86	5/21	92	8/13	90
4	3/16	86	4/13	80	5/14	92	5/25	90	8/20	92
5	3/16	82	4/9	88	5/23	90	5/28	92	8/20	90
6	3/26	82	4/9	87	5/23	88	5/28	92	8/20	94
7	3/26	86	4/9	92	5/23	94	5/28	96	8/27	92
8	4/2	84	4/9	84	5/23	88	6/2	92	9/6	96
9	4/2	88	4/9	94	5/23	94	6/2	94	9/6	92
10	4/2	90	4/9	84	5/23	92	6/2	90	9/6	92
Average:		84.2	86.9	91.6	92.3					

1915 average at Registered shoots, 81.33%

Increase through A. A. T. A. Medal Shooting, 11%

Note how he gradually improved in steadiness.

That's what counts in tournament shooting — confidence in your ability to deliver the goods every time.

BRONZE



REVERSE

A. Koyen, winner of the Preliminary, and E. L. Bartlett, winner Amateur Championship had also been "shooting up" through the A.A.T.A. Medal Contests.

Start NOW for a Higher Average in 1917.

Write at once for booklet and important Notice to all Shooters.

American Amateur Trapshooters' Association

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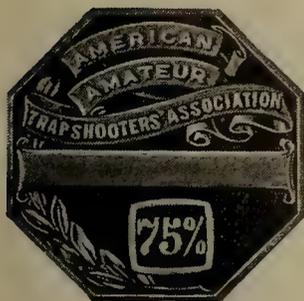
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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME X

NOVEMBER, 1916

NUMBER 2



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Mexican Quail.

Quail again are to be imported from Mexico, beginning November 1. We hope quail with stomach aches and other complaints will not be discovered as promptly as they were last year, and that if any diseased quail be discovered this will not be made an excuse to stop the importation of thousands of healthy quail, as was the case last year. Reputable dealers should be permitted to ship their birds to their mews and to inspect them after arrival and to sell the healthy birds and to destroy those which may have any disease.

We had a letter from a Mexican last year who said his quail in large numbers were running about in his yards before and long after the importation was prohibited. He had about decided to destroy or to liberate his birds because there was no market for them. We shall observe the performances on the border this year with interest and inform our readers of what happens.

It will not be long before thousands of quail are reared on Western game farms and those wishing to buy live or dead quails will be fully supplied. We are sure our readers will be interested in the stories about quail breeding and quail shooting, which will be published during the year.

Iowa.

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We were unable to send several hundred copies of the September issue to Iowa for special work there because the edition was exhausted a few days after its appearance. We have reprinted part of the matter of especial interest to the people of Iowa, and we will see that

our agent for that state is fully supplied. We predict that this state soon will be a big producer of prairie grouse and quail.

We are quite sure a good lot of pheasants and wild ducks will be reared in Iowa next year.

Two most important laws have been enacted recently which should be given the widest publicity in the State of Iowa and the other States which have game breeders' laws.

The Iowa law provides that:

"Any person desiring to engage in the business of raising and selling pheasants, wild duck, quail and other game birds or any of them in a wholly enclosed preserve or enclosure of which he is the owner or lessee, may make application in writing to the State Fish and Game Warden for a license so to do. That the State Fish and Game Warden, when it shall appear that such application is made in good faith, shall upon the payment of an annual fee of \$2 issue to such applicant a breeder's license permitting such applicant to breed and raise the above described game birds, or other game birds, or any of them, on such preserve or enclosure; and to sell the same alive at any time for breeding or stocking purposes; and to kill and use the same; or sell same for food."

The New York law provides that game produced by breeders in other states, which regulate the industry, may sell the food produced in the New York markets, which, undoubtedly, are the best markets in the world for game. The courts are beginning to hold that any breeder can shoot and sell the game he owns.

Pheasants sell readily for \$4 and \$5 a pair in large lots when sold as food. They bring even higher prices when sold alive for propagation. Wild ducks sell readily for \$3.00 per pair and last year

many ducks were sold for \$3.25 to \$4.50 per pair.

The best prices for quail and prairie grouse are paid for live birds. There is a demand for hundreds of thousands of birds and the quail sell for \$25 per dozen and often more in large lots. Prairie grouse will sell for \$5.00 to \$10.00 per pair in large lots and for better prices in small lots. There is also a big demand for deer. They sell for \$25 and \$35.

The Treaty for the Protection of Migratory Birds.

The United States and Canada have made a treaty under which the two countries are to regulate the taking of migratory birds. The American Protective Association and the National Association of Audubon Societies have been working hard to secure this the most important game law ever enacted in the world.

The Constitution of the United States provides that all treaties made or which shall be made under the authority of the United States shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Article I defines migratory game birds; the swans, cranes, rails (including coots and gallinules), shore birds and pigeons and doves. The migratory insectivorous and other non-game birds, also, are listed.

Article II establishes close seasons on migratory game birds between March 10 and September 1, except that the closed season on shorebirds in the maritime provinces of Canada, and in those States of the United States bordering on the Atlantic Ocean, which are situated wholly or in part north of Chesapeake Bay, shall be between February 1 and August 15, and that Indians may take at any time scoters for food, but not for sale.

Article III provides for a continuous close season, during 10 years, on band-tailed pigeons, little brown, sandhill and whooping cranes, swans, curlew and all shorebirds (except the black-breasted and golden plover, Wilson snipe, woodcock, and greater and lesser yellowlegs).

Article IV provides that special protection shall be given the wood-duck and the eider duck either (1) by a close season extending over a period of at least five years or (2) by the establishment of refuges, or (3) by such other regulations as may be deemed appropriate.

Article V prohibits the taking of nests or eggs, except for scientific propagating purposes.

Article VI provides against the shipping or export of migratory birds and eggs except for scientific or propagation purposes during the closed seasons.

Article VII provides for permits to kill birds when injurious to agricultural or other interests.

Article VIII provides that the contracting parties agree to take or propose to their respective law-making bodies the necessary measures for insuring the execution of the convention.

Why Not Game Shooting?

Trap shooting clubs provide their shooting grounds and their targets. Some of these clubs have extended their activities and now provide bird shooting grounds and game birds for their members. In all cases they keep up their trap shooting and find it improves their field shooting.

A sportsman at one of these game shooting clubs said to the writer that he had shot more ammunition at the traps that day than he had in six years before the game shooting was undertaken. He found the ducks and pheasants difficult and was getting ready for October, he observed, when he proposed to get his share of the abundant game.

Big boxes of Remington cartridges were piled high on the porch, openings being left for the windows, and it was evident that this place would sound like "a continuous fourth of July," as the president of the Tunxis Club described the noise at that interesting shooting ground in a letter to *The Game Breeder*.

A Pheasant Book.

Mr. E. A. Quarles has sent us a very good little book describing how they raise pheasants at the New Jersey and New York State game farms. The book

is full of information about the pens, coops, foods, etc., and it will be interesting to those who wish to rear pheasants in large numbers.

There is an amusing error in the book. Governor Hugnes is given the credit for signing the bill permitting the sale of pheasants. The truth of the matter is that those of us who wished to put some common sense in the game laws could not get anywhere near Governor Hughes with the Lupton bill, the first game breeding bill presented in New York. The Game Commissioner, we were told by the Chairman of the Committee, would not even let the bill be reported. It was the following year when the ridiculous Bayne bill was pending that amendments were offered to this, so as to permit the breeding of all species. Under a bad compromise only deer, pheasants and ducks escaped the nonsense in the original bill. Governor Dix promised to sign the bill permitting breeding if it ever reached him, and he promptly did so. Governor Hughes probably never knew that a breeders' bill was pending during his administration since the game politicians were too strong that season for any bill to pass.

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Rented Shooting.

Many farmers now rent the shooting to sportsmen who agree to look after the game. I know one county in a Southern State where the shooting on about two hundred thousand acres included in many small farms is rented to individual sportsmen or to clubs or syndicates. The sportsmen employ game keepers to control the enemies of the game and to look after it properly and they keep it abundant. I have seen large numbers of birds on some of the places where thousands of quail are shot safely every season. The game keepers protect the farmers' poultry from hawks and from thieves and they see that no damage is done on the farms by trespassers. The amount of the shooting rent is equal to the entire taxes on the lands and buildings in most places and all the farmers I met when I examined the places where game always is abundant are much pleased with the results. In

some cases the rent amounts to more than the taxes.

All the song and insectivorous birds are abundant, and these birds increase in numbers rapidly on account of the practical protection given to the game. The shooting leases usually are made for five or ten years, but the farmers reserve the right to cancel the contracts at any time if they sell the farms. The purchaser, however, is glad, usually, to be exempt from taxes and to have his poultry and stock protected from hawks and trespassers by agreeable game keepers who live with their families on one of the farms rented for that purpose.

=

Rats Kill Pigeons.

Rats, with whisk broom whiskers, and as big as small cats, are held to be responsible for the disappearance of a number of the tame pigeons which make a feeding ground of the railroad station. The rodents make their headquarters under the platform planks, which open out upon the tracks. One of the station employes says that he saw two or three big fellows dash from cover one day, seize a pigeon that was feeding between the tracks and drag it out of sight under the platform. The killing was too far away for him to interfere. At another time he noticed a pigeon struggling near the edge of the platform. He reached the place just in time to scare a big rat away with a rock. At one time the employes brought in a cat to clear the place. The cat, however, made the mistake of eating her kills and got so painfully thin and emaciated from the poison in the rat meat that she had to be chloroformed. More recently poison has been tried with better success.

[The foregoing was sent by The Dean; probably from a Washington paper.]

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Shall The Game Breeder Be Issued Weekly?

Many of our readers write to ask us to issue The Game Breeder weekly instead of monthly. We have been considering the matter. It does seem desirable to have weekly news from the game farms and farmers of the prices of birds and eggs. The prices change often and are

rising. At present we believe it will be better, however, to improve the magazine and to enlarge it somewhat than it would be to attempt a weekly issue. Meantime, we wish to ask all our readers to send us new subscribers as many now do.

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"More Game" for Baseball Men.

A number of baseball magnates, headed by Capt. T. L. Huston, vice-president of the New York American League Club, have purchased the Dover Hall Club game preserve in Glynn County, Georgia, and intend to spend the greater part of the winter season there shooting and fishing.

Dover Hall is situated on a tidewater peninsula 10 miles by water and 14 miles by land from Brunswick, Ga., and is 17 miles from Jekyl Island. The preserve embraces 2434 acres, all in virgin woodland, heavily timbered, except 200 acres, which are under cultivation. It is stocked with deer, wild turkey, quail, snipe, duck, rail and plover, and is considered the finest game preserve in the South. There are also four miles of oyster beds, plenty of trout, bass, whiting, etc. There is also a safe harbor for yachts.

On days when it will be impossible to shoot in the field, trapshooting will hold forth; in fact, trapshooting will be one of the features of the life at Dover Hall. Several club houses have been erected and individual bungalows have been constructed for many of the members.

Mr. Houston is president of the organization and George T. Stallings, manager of the Boston Braves, is vice-president. A few of the others who will enjoy the pleasures of Dover Hall are John K. Tener, president of the National League; B. B. Johnson, president of the American League; Edward Barrow, president of the International League; Jacob Rupert, president of the New York American League Club; Harry N. Hempstead, president of the New York Giants; John J. McGraw, manager of the Giants; Robert Lee Hedges, formerly owner of the St. Louis Browns; Charles Comiskey, owner of the Chicago Americans; Harry Stevens, Frank Stevens and John Conway Toole,

directors of the New York National League Club; Robert Davis and Norman Davis, formerly of the Jersey City International League Club; Archie Hurburt, Bud Fisher, the cartoonist, and Irving Cobb, the humorist.

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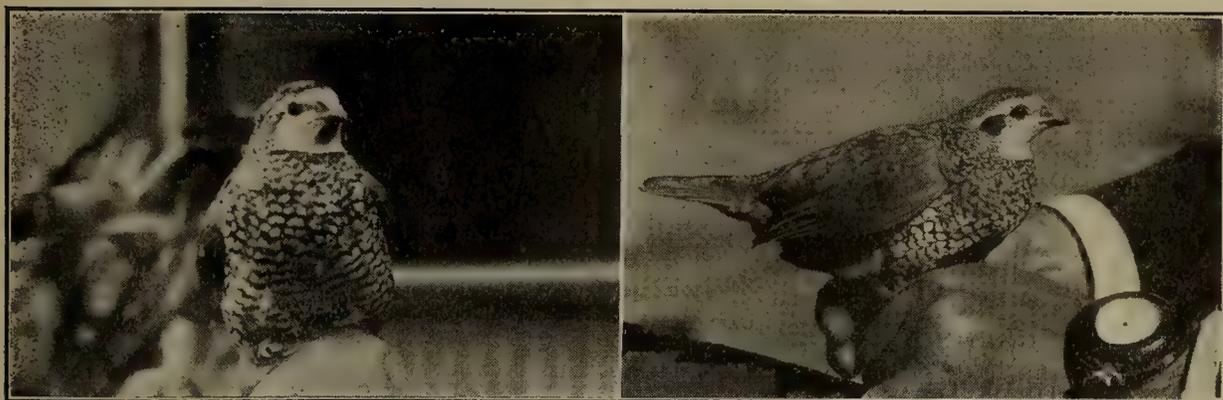
Breeding Native Species.

During the coming year much space will be devoted to the best breeding methods for American grouse and quail or partridges.

America undoubtedly has more wild fowl than any other country in the world and the artificial rearing of wild ducks for sport and for profit is a well established and growing industry. Hundreds of thousands of wild duck eggs will be sold next spring and since the ratio of increase of any species is geometrical when it is properly looked after for profit, the wild ducks soon will be much cheaper in the markets than they are this season. America has become the third largest producer of pheasants and this industry of pheasant breeding flourishes in nearly every state of the Union and the provinces of Canada.

It is most important to encourage the breeding of our native game, the grouse and quails and wild turkeys, both in a wild state and in captivity. These birds can be produced far more cheaply than hand-reared pheasants. They will bring higher prices in the markets both alive and dead. It is purely a scientific business proposition, therefore, to say that our quails, grouse and turkeys quickly will become tremendously abundant and cheap in the markets as soon as the people know how to breed them cheaply and in large numbers. Hundreds of wild turkeys have been successfully bred this season.

The Game Breeder will publish the plans and specifications for such places and will report the prices and profits of those engaged in the new industry. There will be numerous illustrations. Sport has nothing to fear. In some of the pictures excellent dogs will be shown pointing birds in places where thousands of quail are shot every season.



Hybrid Quail. A cross of Bobwhite and Blue or Scaled Quail.

IMPORTING QUAIL FROM MEXICO.

By FRANK KENT, M.D.

I am sending you a bunch of photographs for your magazine showing quail crates and a railway car full of Mexican quail.

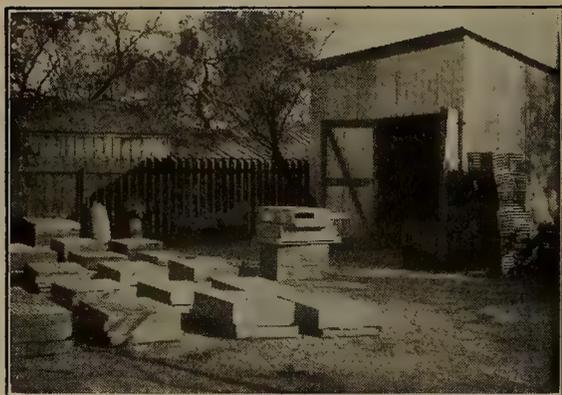
I went in an automobile into Mexico to locate the quail and was told I could get all I wished. The natives, however, were afraid to do the trapping, since it was the custom of soldiers to rob trav-

elers, especially the venders of truck. I was obliged to make excursions two or three times a week to the different places where the trapping was being done.

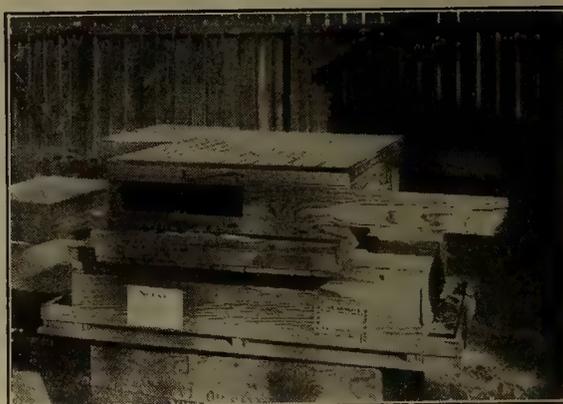
The traps used by the natives are Fig. 4 traps, made of cornstalks tied with sisal. Numerous horsehair loops are attached to the trigger so that they



"More Quail" To be exact, 6044 Bobwhites crated and ready for shipment.



A small shipment.



Shipping crates

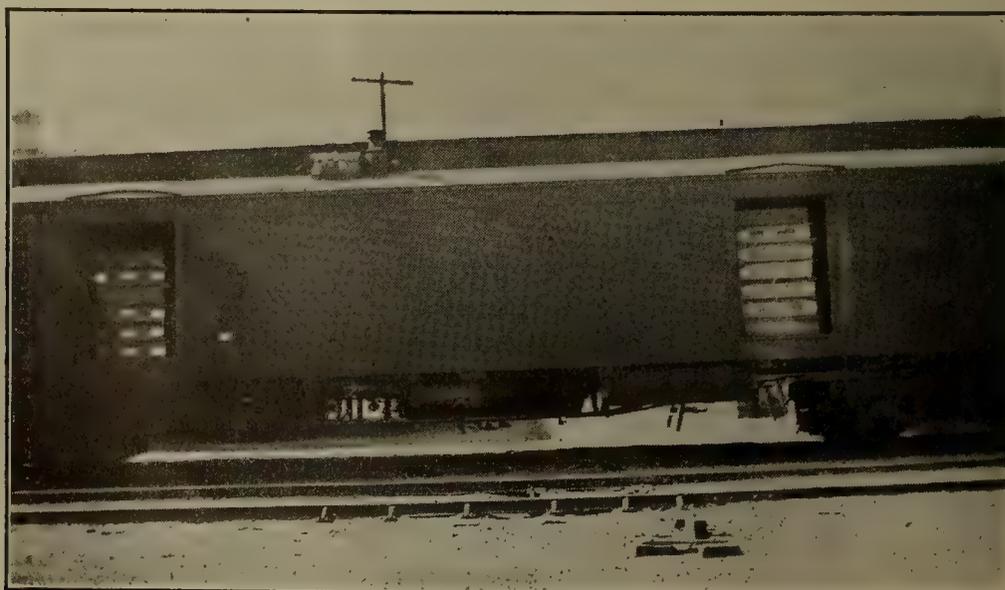
lasso the feet of the quail and throw the trap. Only one to five birds are caught at a time, but the trappers, working several traps, made a good daily showing and good wages.

I found milo maize and cane seed to be the grain the quail liked best and, for green food, cabbage.

I consider the quarantine established by the government proper. It is a protection to the purchaser. But if the Department of Agriculture puts a stop to the importation because from one to one hundred per cent. of the birds die of quail disease, the sportsmen should get busy because Mexico is the only

source of stock for propagation purposes. The policy of the Department in closing the importation of quail on account of an occasional outbreak of disease sounds as logical as the argument of the drummer who refused to ride on a train because of an occasional train wreck.

The hybrid shown in the photograph is a rare and beautiful bird. It has the blue wings, back and tail of the Mexican blue quail or scaled partridge, a typical bobwhite breast, its head is not that of either bird. It has a slight crest, but this does not show while the bird is being handled. In size, the hybrid is larger than the bobwhite:



A car full of Quail.



A small Run and Brooder.

HOW I BREED AND REAR CALIFORNIA VALLEY QUAIL

By FRED. D. HOYT.

I consider the California Valley quail the easiest of all the American partridges or quails to breed and raise in captivity. While no success has been made with the mountain quail, the valley bird stands close confinement very well and yields results almost as easily as those obtained by pigeon breeders.

My breeding pens are made of one-inch wire mesh twelve feet wide and thirty-five feet long, seven feet high. The low top makes it easy to catch the birds. It is beneficial also because the quail have a habit of rising and flying in a bunch just at daybreak, and if the top of the pen is too high they get up too much speed before hitting the wire and often they hurt themselves. Running lengthwise of the pen on top I weave into the wire thin narrow strips of wood about eight inches apart; on the sides of the pen similar strips are run up and down. These save the birds from many bumps since they can see these wooden pieces and will not go into them. I also use this method on my pheasant pens and the birds, instead of butting their heads, go into the wire feet first.

I give details about my pens and runs because the loss of birds will be far

greater from a lack of proper equipment than from any other cause. Nothing larger than one-half inch mesh wire will keep the young quail where they belong.

In the small run described I have had as high as fifty quail and have had splendid results, with no signs of sickness. I consider it is almost as necessary to have as large a pen for a dozen quail as for fifty; the partridges fly when they want to go somewhere in a hurry, but get their exercise by running, instead of flying. Therefore we place the wire within a few inches of the ground and the birds will run back and forth for an hour at a time in trying to get out.

For protection from cats and other vermin, a foot of half inch wire is run around the bottom, for if a quail flies in the dark and hits the sides of the pen it will drop straight down and stay where it lands. Were it not for the wire protection it would be in easy reach of your neighbor's pet tabby.

The quail may be mated or you may run two females to one male with just as good results. Do not let the females become broody. To prevent this, build nests on the ground out of an eight-

inch board, dividing it off about every seven inches; raise it about six inches from the ground, with a front board coming down from the top leaving a space of four inches so they can easily get under. In front of the nests fasten light brush and long straw, forming a cover. In each nest, which should hold one or two hen quails, place a small white marble three-fourths of an inch in diameter for a nest egg and the quail will take to the nests as readily as domestic hens do.

Gather the eggs daily, since there will be less chance for breakage and for the

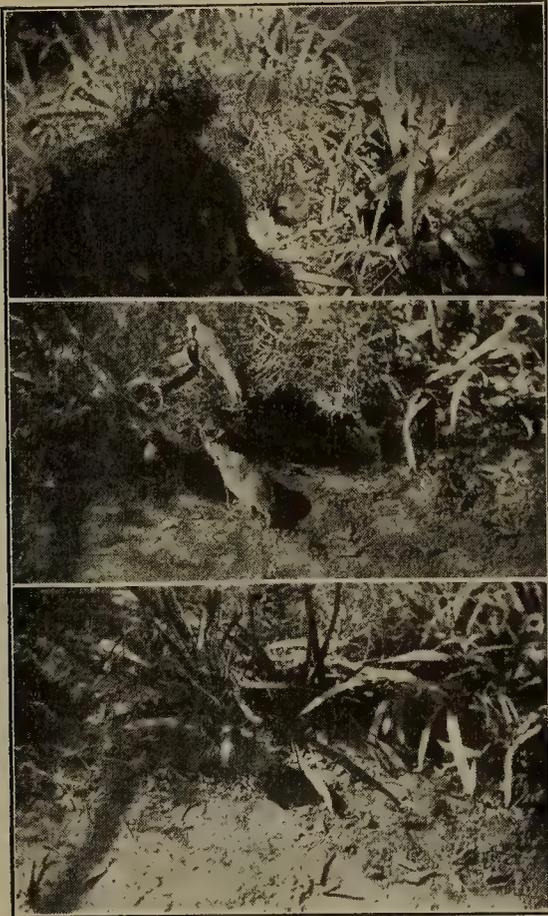
equally good results. I have obtained perfect hatches in both ways. After quail eggs have been incubated for a week an eight pound hen could walk on them without doing any damage.

I use both bantam hens and brooders in raising young quail. If the bantams are steady I let the young birds go with the hens in a small run, fifteen inches high at one end and ten inches at the other, made out of one-half inch boards with a cover of one-half inch wire netting. This is covered for two feet with roofing paper, which is the only protection the birds have from the weather.

These runs should be placed on hard, solid ground, where it is impossible for the young birds or the hen to scratch or tunnel under. Put a layer of fine sand in the bottom. The young birds are not fed for the first twenty-four hours.

I leave the hen with the young birds for five or six days; then I transfer the birds to a fireless brooder, about the size of a large soap box, with a filling of Eiderdown that will not ravel or pull out. I let this down until it just touches the bottom of the brooder, as I find the little birds like to have something pressing on their backs. In this climate there is plenty of warmth. We have the doorway of the brooder in the corner which matches one in the runs. This is as it should be in any brooder, since the small birds will find the way in the corner where it would be almost impossible to drive them in if the door was in the middle.

One of these brooders two feet square will hold fifty quail until they are old enough to stay out. In raising quail you may add a newly hatched brood to those already two weeks old with no bad results. In feeding we use no wet food; the first few days we feed boiled egg rubbed dry with finely ground meat scrap and any of the small wild seeds which will be readily taken from the start. We add to this bill of fare, corn and wheat grits. Finely chopped onions and lettuce should be given at all times and a drinking fount of fresh buttermilk should be beside their drinking water. The buttermilk is used to pre-



California Valley Quail.

birds becoming broody. You may keep as many hens as you like in a pen, but do not have an excess of cock birds or some will kill the others; this, however, only during the mating season.

My hen quail, worked on this plan, each yield me almost fifty eggs in the season with nearly one hundred per cent. fertility.

I use both incubators and hens with

vent white diarrhea in raising all wild birds. After ten days the young quail will chop their own lettuce and will live almost on that alone.

In hatching quail in an incubator, run your heat at about 102° F., and when you transfer them to the brooder at the start you should add some heat for the first week as the little birds must be kept good and warm for the first few days.

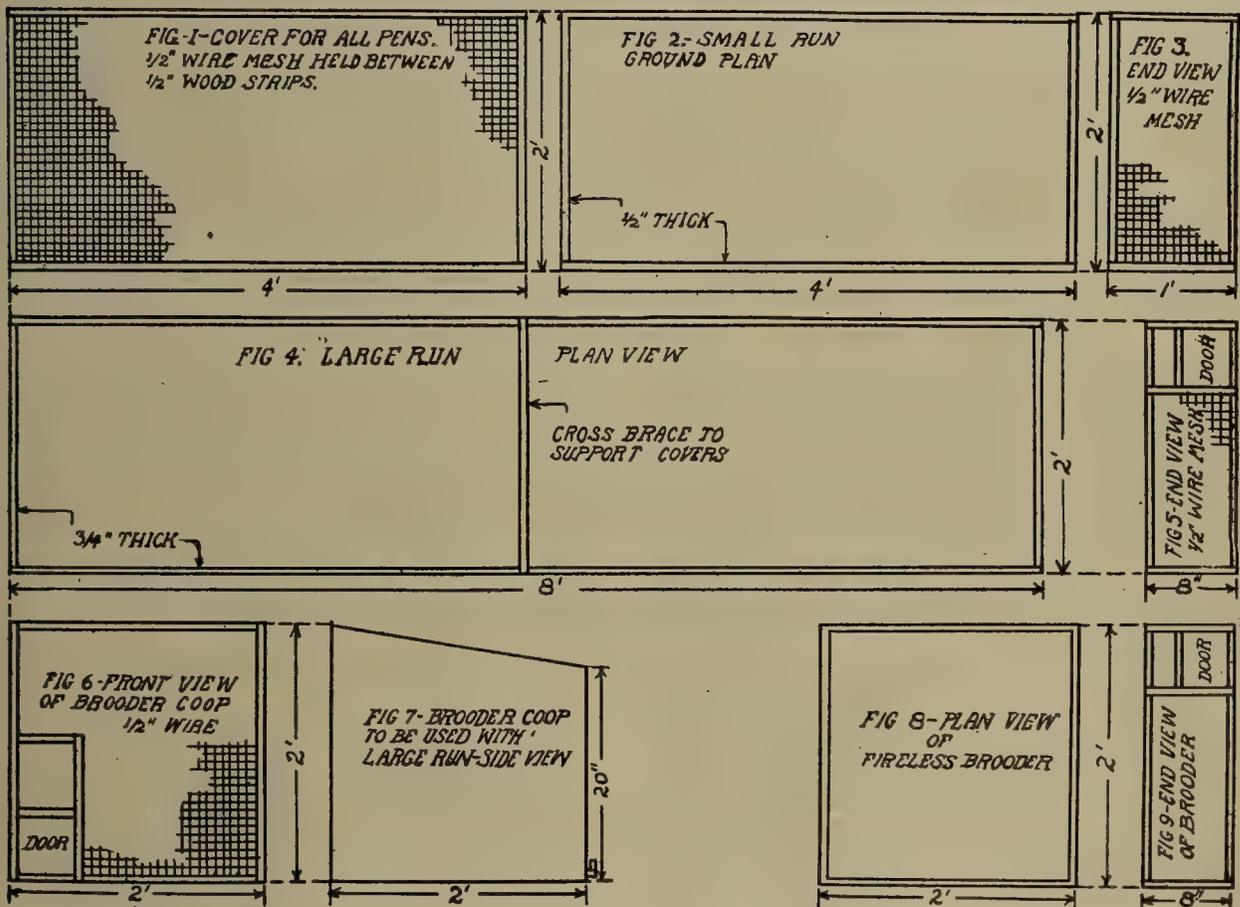
A quail hatched either by a hen or

Fig. 1—Cover to all runs. One of them fits the 4-foot run. Two of them, end to end, make the cover of the 8-foot run. They are fastened on by boring holes through cover well down into the sides of the runs, and dropping a nail into the hole to its head.

Fig. 2—Two foot by 4 foot starting run, made of 1/2-inch redwood, and is used when the bantams first come off with the hatch, until the small quail have a chance to get away from a nervous hen. In two days they are transferred to the 8-foot run.

Fig. 3—Is end view of small run.

Fig. 4—Two foot by 8-foot run, and unlike the 4-foot run, which is 3/4 inch thick, 1



Plan of Quail Pen and Fireless Brooder.

incubator does not have to be taught to go into a brooder, for as soon as it sees a hole in the brooder it will put itself out of sight in the warm down. It may have to be driven out a few times, but you will have no trouble in making it go in.

After the young birds are well feathered and one-fourth grown, transfer your small brooder and quail to your grassy rearing pen. Let them use it for a short time and they soon will leave it for the brushy roosting place with which the run should be supplied.

foot high, to allow the bantam to be with her breed, is only 8 inches high, as the mother is never allowed in this run. One end of this run is made of 1/2 inch wire mesh, with a door at one side, 4 inches wide and 5 inches high, to fit with door in brooder, or coop. See Fig. 4.

Fig. 5—Half inch wire end for 8-foot run. All doors should be sliding so that quail can be driven into run or brooder while you are cleaning.

Fig. 6—Front view of brooder coop.

Fig. 7—Coop for hen with slide bottom to be used with 8-foot run, until you wish to take away hen and substitute the brooder. This will be according to the weather. Coop must have a 1/2-inch wire mesh front so that,

when placed against wire end¹ of the 8-foot run, the hen can see young quail at all times.

Fig. 8. Fireless brooder, 2 feet by 2 feet by 8 inches high with a small slide door in one side and a glass window in the opposite side. By driving the birds into the brooder and closing the door you can take them safely anywhere after ten days.

The brooder filler is made of eider-down and canvas. The top is made of heavy canvas with a good wide hem around the outside to receive the eyelet holes which fit over L screws in the brooder. One inch strips of eider-down are sewed at one inch intervals so as to hang down vertically. On the end next to the window a free space is left so that the birds will have nothing to bother them when entering. (Am sending a sample of eider-down. I do not know what it will cost as I bought mine where they were selling out for 50 cents per yard.)

A ½-inch wire mesh screen is made to fit the inside of the brooder and rests on top

of brooder cloth. This is very necessary to keep the birds from getting on top of cloth or escaping when top is removed.

I have 33 quail in one of the eight foot runs at the present time that have never had a mother other than the brooder. They are four months old and have full plumage. My pen record shows that by not letting them get broody the hen quails have averaged 54½ eggs each.

Last year they commenced to lay April 14; this year March 28. Under no conditions should young quail be put in pens or on ground that has been used by other fowl.

Keep it before the breeders that good equipment and cleanliness is all there is to it. I find the hand rearing of quail so easy that, "It is a joke."

MALLARD BREEDING IN IOWA.

W. R. HINDE.

As to my breeding wild mallard ducks, I will say that we have had the stock for about six years. We got them first from a man living near Wall Lake, which is a great shooting ground in season. He got the eggs from the wild nests and kept a nice flock for a good many years.

The first year we had one drake and two ducks and we kept them in an inclosed yard. The drake would mate with only one duck that year, but since we have them more domesticated, and they run at large, we have no trouble with infertile eggs from any one duck as they adopt the same habits as our common chickens in the breeding season.

They have never been crossed with any other variety of ducks and are identically the same as the mallards that I shoot in the wild state.

On account of the Iowa game laws, making no provision for game breeders, we only raised a few birds for our own use until last year, when an amendment was passed allowing a breeder protection by paying a license of \$2.00. Now we are raising more and we expect to increase our flock each year as long as it is practicable.

I think the passing of this law will do a great deal toward increasing the game in Iowa, as I received letters from all over the State last spring in regard to my ducks and eggs. They were from people who were interested in wild game, but who were unable to raise or purchase it heretofore on account of such stringent laws.

I find from my own experience that as soon as a person starts raising wild game that he has a great deal more respect for wild life in general, and in most cases if there were no game laws, the wild game would need have no fear of being exterminated at the hand of game breeders. Furthermore, if all hunters were game breeders, a game hog would be a thing of history, instead of such a pronounced reality. I am very much interested in the work of The Game Conservation Society and The Game Breeder. I wish this magazine could reach every hunter in the country. If it could there would soon be a demand all over the United States for common sense laws which would tend to make every man a friend and protector of our feathered friends.

AN ARTIFICIAL LAKE FOR FISH.

BY DEPUTY WARDEN W. O. HADLEY.

Two years ago M. Thornton & Son, of The Dalles, constructed an artificial lake, covering twelve acres, on the Thornton ranch, three miles west of The Dalles and one-fourth mile from the public highway. The lake is situated at the head of a valley at the foot of Seven Mile hill. The depth of the water is from two to fifteen feet.

A rocky ridge runs part way across the valley at this point, which forms a portion of the dam. From the west end of the rock ridge a cement wall, 195 feet in length, has been constructed, which forms the lake. A neck of land runs out into the lake, which adds to the beauty of the place and making the lake horseshoe in shape.

Nearly two years ago 39,000 black bass were furnished by the State Fish and Game Commission to stock this lake.

When planted the fish were from two to three inches long, and now they will average about sixteen inches. Mr. Thornton estimates that he now has in the lake from the spawn of these fish from three to four million fry. Four thousand young catfish were also planted in this lake, and these fish have grown to an average length of fifteen inches. They were about three inches long when planted.

The owners made this lake mainly for their own pleasure and to beautify their ranch, but they will sell a part of the fish raised and probably later on will allow the public to fish in the lake under restrictions.

I believe this is the largest artificial lake in Eastern Oregon, constructed solely for the purpose of raising fish.—Oregon Sportsman.

FISH AND IRRIGATION DITCHES.

(From the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Portland, Oregon.)

Thorough tests of devices to prevent fish from entering irrigation ditches are to be made by Forest Service officers, who say that thousands of the trout placed in Western streams by the Government are killed through being carried into the ditches and washed out on the fields. There are not less than 1,200 irrigation projects on or near the National Forests, and in many places the loss of trout is very heavy. The amount of water used in irrigation, it is said, often determines the advisability of artificially stocking the streams.

The Government annually plants large quantities of fish fry in the streams of the National Forests. Last year over 1,100,000 were planted in Colorado and Wyoming alone. This was done to render the forests more attractive to the

public by affording good fishing. Where much of the water is used for irrigation, unless the ditches are screened, the trout enter and are washed out onto the fields. While fish are said to make good fertilizer, officials think that trout are too expensive to be used for that purpose.

A number of devices for screening the ditches are in use, and while two or three have been found to be fairly effective, most of them are said to be unsatisfactory. It is asserted that this subject presents an excellent opportunity for inventors, since a successful screen will be sure to be widely used. Under present conditions, officials are slow to recommend that the trout be placed in streams where they are apt to be led off into the irrigation ditches.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

A Flock From One Pair.

I wish to express my great appreciation of the invaluable help you have given me through *The Game Breeder* in my game propagating attempts.

I started with one pair of mallards and have now a flock of about fifty. I have added new wild blood in the spring and I have a hardy, strong-flying flock. I hope to liberate some birds every year, killing only enough to pay for their upkeep, and such improvements I deem wise. Last spring I purchased some pheasants which have done very nicely; also a pair of Canadian geese which did not breed this season. I have read many fine articles in *The Game Breeder*. The snapping turtles abound in the pond where I keep my ducks. Dynamiting is impractical. Any information about turtles will be appreciated.

ALAN ROGERS.

New Jersey.

[See notes about turtles in this issue.—Editor.]

A New Breeder.

Publisher of *The Game Breeder*:

One of your readers sent me *The Game Breeder* for a year. In renewing the subscription I wish to thank him for sending me a magazine in which I have become much interested. I am trying to purchase a tract of land and will become a game breeder.

L. C.

Wisconsin.

[Hundreds of people become interested in game breeding by reading *The Game Breeder*. Our mail indicates that several people start game farms or shooting clubs every day in the year and possibly we do not hear of all of them. Members of our society will produce, this year, over a million more game birds than they produced last year.—Editor.]

Editor *Game Breeder*:

I wish to know what kind of eggs are used as game food and also how to prepare them.

READER.

[Common hen's eggs, often hard boiled and grated; served with Spratt's pheasant and wild duck meals. Write to the Spratt's Patent, Ltd., Newark, N. J., for their booklets about breeding.—Editor.]

A Silencer.

I saw an amusing "No Trespassing" sign in *The Game Breeder*. I send you one which I think will equal it. For many years it was maintained in the outskirts of a village in Maine. It read:

"No Gunin Aloud Hear."

G. H. RICHARDS.

Boston, Mass.

Real Mallards.

Mr. Clyde B. Terrell, Oshkosh, Wis., writes that he has a few hundred pure mallards for sale at attractive prices. We would advise some of our readers who have half-bred stock to send their birds to the New York market where they will sell for enough to purchase swift-flying thoroughbreds.

Fertility.

Editor *Game Breeder*:

We never know what is going to happen with eggs as to their fertility. No one should guarantee fertility. No one but a rank amateur would advertise fertile eggs.

Kentucky.

R. A. CHILES.

The Sale of Game.

The importance of sending a lot of game to the markets becomes more and more evident as the game becomes abundant. There is a splendid demand for the food at excellent prices and the money paid for it will be used to produce more game.

Were it not for the fact that much game will be shot and eaten this fall and next winter, some species of game, especially the wild ducks and pheasants, would become over abundant and the breeding industry would suffer accordingly.

Over a thousand members of the Game Conservation Society are actively engaged in breeding game and in selling the birds and eggs. Those who had only a few birds last year have hundreds of birds this year, and preliminary reports coming to our game census indicate that there will be several times as many birds

sold this year as were sold last year. There will be hundreds of thousands of eggs sold next spring to new breeders, shooting clubs and preserves. We are glad to learn that many thousands of birds will be sold as food in the markets. The ratio of increase, as we predicted it would be, is geometrical.

Another Game Breeding Association.

The Game Breeder:

Please send me one copy of "Our Wild Fowl and Waders" and one copy of Dr. H. K. Job's book on "Propagation of Wild Birds."

We are organizing a game breeders' association.

JAS M. PERRY.

Periods of Incubation.

(Furnished by R. A. Chiles.)

Impeyan, 32 days.
 Peacock pheasants, 26 to 28 days.
 Melanotus, 28 days.
 Elliott, 24 days.
 Swinhoe, 24 days.
 Soemmning, 24 to 27 days.
 Golden pheasants, 22 to 23 days.
 Amherst pheasants, 23 days.
 Silver pheasants, 26 to 28 days.
 Manchurian eared pheasants, 24 to 26 days.
 Ringneck pheasants, 23 days.
 Reeves pheasants, 24 days.
 Quail, 24 to 28 days.
 Peacocks, 28 days.
 Guinea, 28 days.
 Swans, 28 to 32 days.
 Ducks other than Mallard, 24 to 28 days.

Dr. Herbert K. Job, author of "Propagation of Wild Birds," says: "As to the periods of incubation, aside from what are given in my book, I have only the following: * * * Golden Pheasant, 22 to 23 days; Silver and Reeves, 24 to 26 days; Lady Amherst, 23 to 24 days; Canada Goose, 28 to 29 days. These are on the authority of Ludwig Seidler."

The Game Guild.

The Game Guild is a committee made up of members of the Game Conserva-

tion Society, to pass on complaints made by members and readers of The Game Breeder against advertisers from whom they have purchased stock birds and eggs, to prevent all unfair dealing and poaching and illegal sales of game.

When this committee sustains the complaint against an advertiser he is notified of the fact and if he does not settle with the complainant after a hearing and decision against him, his advertisement is ordered discontinued and the amount he has paid for his membership is returned. He can no longer be a member of the Society or advertise in its publication.

Several cases were passed on recently. Where unfair dealing was proved the defendants either settled with the purchasers or were dismissed from the Society.

Of especial interest was the case of an advertiser who offered "fertile eggs," which turned out not to be fertile. The committee decided unanimously that the offer amounted to a guarantee or warranty and the purchaser was notified that he could have the advertisement removed upon request.

We would advise advertisers not to offer "fertile" eggs, but to word their advertisements so as to read that they will send eggs exactly similar to those they are using, or words to this effect.

Many eggs which are fertile when shipped are not so upon arrival and controversies about fertility can be avoided by writing the advertisements as we have suggested.

The Game Breeder will not tolerate unfair dealing.

The Game Conservation Society is now the largest association of game breeders in the world and in so far as it is possible it proposes to protect its members from those who do not deal with them properly and fairly. All complaints receive immediate attention.

This is a new department of the Game Conservation Society and all breeders who wish further information can obtain it by writing to the Secretary. All breeders who become members of the guild can mention the fact in their advertising.

A Sample Letter.

Dear Dr.—Enclosed order for three pair of R. N. pheasants. This customer wants pair Hungarian, paid Mongolian and pair English pheasants, all the very same birds about. But to please will you please ship 1 big cock R. N., 1 ordinary cock R. N. and 1 cock, pull out the white feathers around the neck, called them Hungarian, not showing much R. N. pheasants, hens any Ok. In breeding these class of birds they come in all kinds of plumage. Some even come almost white all over, called white pheasants.

I will allow you \$3.50 per pair, and expect to sell the rest of your R. N. in few days. I understand you have seven pair to sell. Please do let us hear from you. Please do the best you can as to above order.

Pack carefully and best separate hens from cocks. If peaceful, ok., pack all together.

The writer of the above letter is no longer a member of the Game Conservation Society. His membership was cancelled and he is not permitted to advertise in The Game Breeder.

The Control of Snapping Turtles.

Many wild duck breeders complain about the losses due to snapping turtles.

We had a short article about the placing of steel traps at the side of the turtles' runways so as to prevent the turtles from springing the traps without getting caught. This was accompanied by a pencil sketch which we gave to an artist to be redrawn. It seems to have been mislaid.

The trap should be set at one side of the runway so as to catch the turtle by the foot. We have asked an expert of the Oneida Community, Ltd., to describe the trap recommended for turtles and we would advise our readers to use it as directed. We shall get another diagram and publish it.

Turtles can be caught on fish hooks baited with fish, meat or small birds (sparrows). These hooks should be attached to a fine wire to prevent the turtles cutting loose, and many hooks can be suspended from a strong line stretched across the pond.

Small ponds can be dynamited to advantage before the ducks are introduced. Write to the du Ponts or The Hercules Powder Company about the cost of this work.

At the Game Breeders' Association, where the turtles were a pest, we ran

a small chicken wire in the water a few feet from the shore and a high wire at the rear of the coops on the bank, with end wires connecting these two wire fences so as to make an inclosure containing a long narrow strip of water and a yard for the coops.

The turtles in the pond tried to get at the young ducklings and when they appeared outside the wire many were shot by the keepers from a boat and from the shore.

A gamekeeper who called on The Game Breeder recently said that turtles could get over a low wire two or three feet high from the land, but we had no trouble on this score since we used a five-foot wire.

Turtles will travel from one pond to another, so that it is advisable to wire the entire pond against them, and to exterminate those in the inclosure. A good keeper with gun and traps will not let the turtles take many of the ducklings.

Turtles, of course, are easily exterminated in ponds which easily can be drained and refilled.

We shall be glad to print any other remedial suggestions our members may make.

Isaac Walton's Turtle.

In recalling interesting observations I remember when a boy of setting a trap for muskrats in the water close to our shop. During the afternoon in looking out of a second story window to see if the trap had been disturbed saw near the trap a large snapping turtle in about ten inches of water with his head drawn back, showing only a small portion of its head. He had something white in his mouth looking much like a white grub. I watched it intently, wondering why it remained so still instead of eating the grub. Presently a white fish nearly six inches long appeared and soon made a dash on the white grub and to its sorrow as the turtle made a move somewhat slower than lightning, seized the fish and at once began eating it.

I ran to the other end of the shop and told father, who grabbed up his cane rifle and loaded it, while I ran

down stairs to get a rake. Father was no slouch with the rifle and at the crack of the rifle I made a rush with the rake and secured the turtle.

After chopping off its head I cut open the mouth and discovered that what I supposed was a white grub was its tongue. The rifle ball had gone through its head and nearly severed the tongue.

THE OWL AS A FISH ENEMY.

The aforesaid incident also calls to mind another case wherein an acquaintance of mine who had a nice trout pond began missing some of his largest specimens. He told me that mink were raising havoc with his trout and wished me to help him out of his difficulty. At the upper end of the pond was a precipice of rocks formed against a steep bank. The water from a spring trickling over the edge of the rocks formed a little pool at the base 5 or 6 inches deep, with a little neck of water 3 or 4 inches deep connecting with the pond a distance of about 3 feet. In this little neck or passage I placed a No. 1½ Newhouse trap as a blind set. The next morning in looking at my trap I found an owl caught by both legs and between the legs lengthwise of the jaws of the trap a trout of nearly three-fourths of a pound weight. The owl evidently was perched on the rocks and pounced on the trout just as it was passing over the trap in search of cold spring water.

M. J. NEWHOUSE.

Snakes.

The Game Breeder:

Snakes have certainly broken into good society in the pages of The Game Breeder. I enclose a bit of copy as an additional communication.

By virtue of the enclosed you are a life member of the Reptile Study Society. This honor is deserved because you have been helping to let in the light on obscure Ophidian manners and morals.

I am spending this summer, as usual, lecturing at camps for boys and girls in ten States about reptiles and other zoological subjects.

With best wishes which include your success in providing outdoor sport and game dinners for everybody, I am,

Yours sincerely,

ALLEN S. WILLIAMS.

New York.

[The editor appreciates the honor. Recently he has been made an honorary member of some new Game Breeding Associations and clubs and he contemplates visiting many of these places to sample the shooting.]

Siberian Hares and Advertising.

We are pleased to observe that the Siberian Hare Company advertise a guarantee.

We have received letters asking if the magazine guaranteed its advertising. We use great care in receiving advertisements and we have refused to publish them in some cases. The cases of advertisers who do not deal fairly with our readers are referred to our game guild, which disposes of controversies. He receives a letter stating the complaint and if found in the wrong his advertisement will no longer appear. Most of the cases passed on have been settled satisfactorily.

Snakes.

Editor The Game Breeder:

It is a very nice little symposium that is permeating the pages of The Game Breeder as a result of my communication about North American species of serpents, and all the contributions have been interesting. I am not ready to believe with Mr. Oscar S. Weed, of North Rose, N. Y., that blacksnakes and water snakes should be classed with the rattler and copperhead because as Mr. Weed says, he believes "they kill more edible fish than all the fishermen in this section." Rattlesnakes and copperheads are not anglers, of course, and Mr. Weed probably does not mean that they are. The Banded Water Snake, *Natrix fasciata sipedon*, the only water snake in New York State, of course, is an ichthyophagus creature, although his main diet is frogs, and possibly some of the remains of fish found by Mr. Weed belonged to slower moving species than brook trout.

The Buckeye Blacksnake, described by

Mr. John R. Gammeter, of Ohio, would have been a champion of gastronomic effort if he could have swallowed the three-weeks-old wild turkey he was after when an ace of clubs put him out of the game. Some snakes that are large enough do eat hens' eggs, and Mr. J. D. Foot's contribution is interesting, but he is wrong in being "sure" that "any" snake exceeding thirty inches in length will eat eggs of the grouse or of a lesser size, and I now again refer to the "Milk Snake" for its almost total food is small rodents, including the young of large rats. Now, what I want to learn from game breeders is, what toll the rodents take of eggs and live birds? I am willing to stand fast in behalf of the "Milk Snake" as a benefactor to the breeders of game, letting other species of serpents go for future investigation and evidence. Game breeders should also breed the agreeable little *Lampropeltis doliatius triangulus* as a defender against the rodent tribe.

ALLEN SAMUEL WILLIAMS,
Director Reptile Study Society.
New York.

Prairie Grouse and Pheasant.

I mated a male prairie grouse with a ring-necked pheasant hen. They paired up all right, but the eggs were not fertile.

This male prairie grouse would stand and crow and call within six feet of me and he was tamer than any prairie chickens I have ever had.

E. D. PICKELL.
South Dakota.

Two Methods of Game Breeding.

Pheasants and wild ducks easily are produced on comparatively small areas by hand-rearing methods which are quite similar to the methods of poultry breeders. The eggs of pheasants and ducks sell for \$25 per hundred for the common species and for several times as much for the rare species. An Ohio game farmer writes that he sold 10,000 eggs last season and game farmers in many other States sold all the eggs they could produce.

Wild turkeys, also, are now produced

on many game farms. The birds sell at from \$15 to \$25 each and the eggs sell for \$12 to \$15 per dozen. All of these birds can be produced profitably on the Iowa farms and in other States many women are making money with turkeys, pheasants, ducks, quail and other game.

Pheasants, wild ducks and turkeys lend themselves readily to the hand-rearing methods in comparatively small inclosures. There are many booklets describing the methods of breeding, some of which are for free distribution by the dealers in game foods and by the Game Conservation Society, 150 Nassau St., New York. The Hercules Powder Co., Wilmington, Delaware, issues an illustrated booklet discussing the necessity for game farming and describing the methods of breeding wild ducks and pheasants.

Quail and prairie chickens are best raised in a wild state in fields where small areas or grass, grain and briars are left standing to afford food, nesting places and cover. When the natural enemies of the game, the hawks, crows, foxes, snakes and many others, are persistently shot and trapped the birds will increase in numbers with startling rapidity, provided some small food and cover areas be left or made about the sides of the fields and in the center of large fields.

It will pay to have such areas and to employ some one who is handy with the gun and traps to look after the game and keep down its destructive enemies.

Instructive.

Game Breeder:

Have two deer—wish to bring them home. Do I require New York license to bring into New York? Will come home November 1. Wire me in full to Stratton, Maine.

A. A. BERRY.

A. A. BERRY:

Two bucks shipped by express require shipping permits—no charge. Does require, also, importation licenses, \$1.00. Bucks accompanied by the owner, no permit or license. Permits issued at Albany. Wire Conservation Commission, Albany.

OUTINGS AND INNINGS.

A Fish Song.

A New York poet, singing of fish in a sunny song (The Sun, N. Y.), sings thus:

The Ling lives at the banks the whole year round;

I like 'em.

They're the darndest pest that can be found;

I like 'em.

They have whiskers like some well-known gent

Who'll some day be our President.

I like him.

Derby Art.

New York, Sept. 17.

All anglers, excepting the Democrats, will, no doubt, vote accordingly.

=

No Scarecrow.

The visitor to a country farm was being shown round the premises by his host. They inspected the hennery, the piggery, the cowery, the horsery and all of the other "erys," and the city man was very interested.

Presently, as they walked along the side of a field, he touched his companion on the arm.

"There!" he exclaimed quickly. "Is that a scarecrow?"

"Where?" asked the farmer.

"That shabby thing in the middle of the field. It must be a scarecrow. It hasn't moved all the time I've been watching."

"That's no scarecrow," replied the farmer sadly. "That's a man I've got working by the day."

=

How Man Opens the Season on Himself.

A hunter popped a partridge on a hill,
It made a great to-do and then was still;
It seems (when later on his bag he spied)
It was—the guide.

One shot a squirrel in a near-by wood—
A pretty shot, off-hand, from where he stood;
It wore, they said, a shooting hat of brown,

And lived in town.

And one dispatched a rabbit for his haul
That later proved to measure six feet tall,

And lest you think I'm handing you a myth,

Its name was Smith.

Another nimrod slew the champion fox,
He glimpsed him lurking in among rocks;
One rapid shot! It never spoke nor moved—

The inquest proved.

A "cautious" man espied a gleam of brown;

Was it a deer—or Jones (a friend from town)?

But while he pondered by the river's rim,
Jones potted him.

—Technical World.

=

Fixing the Guilt.

We question now the rise so rude,
Ask why and how,
And are assured we must exclude
The gentle cow.

The farmer swears he gets no use
Of prices high,
And so the donkey can produce
An alibi.

Wherefore, examining the game,
The chance is big
The proper animal to blame
Must be a pig.

McLANDBURGH WILSON.

=

Vermin in Politics.

Knicker — Democrats complain that
Hughes doffed the ermine.

Bocker—And Republicans complain
that Wilson wears the weasel.

=

The criterion of game abundance may
always be found in the markets.

A land which has no game in the markets
may be said to be gameless. So far
as most of the people, who are said to
own the game, are concerned, it is so.

The Game Breeder

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J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary.

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THE NEW TREATY.

We congratulate the American Protective Association and the Audubon Association on account of the remarkable convention they were instrumental in securing between the United States and Canada. This is the result of years of labor and the expenditure of much money, no doubt, and we sincerely hope the treaty will result in accomplishing all that those interested believe it will accomplish. This great convention long will be known as the supreme culmination of the laudable efforts which have been made to save the game and non-game birds from extinction.

Since under the terms of the convention it will be necessary for both countries to enact suitable statutes to carry the agreement into effect, we wish to suggest that these laws be made simple, uniform, universal and that they be made easy to understand. We hope the new statutes may contain also provisions that the new restrictions shall not be applied to game birds produced by industry until such birds depart from the control or premises of their owners and become migratory. Otherwise the new game laws may be used to prevent the annual production of millions of game birds and to destroy an industry which the late Judge Beaman well termed, "One of the important coming industries of the country."

Our readers now own many thousands of wood ducks and soon they will produce millions of these valuable food-birds, provided they be not prevented from so doing by law. Many of these birds have been reared from stock birds and eggs purchased in Belgium and other foreign countries where they have no treaties or other laws prohibiting the rearing, selling and eating of wood-ducks and other desirable foods.

We are for the treaty, enthusiastically for it, provided the laws enacted to carry it into effect be not so drawn as to protect the wood-duck "off the face of the earth." We helped to secure a law prohibiting the shooting of wild turkeys at all times, but the wild turkeys became extinct in the State after the law was enacted. They have been restored by our readers who now own hundreds of wild turkeys.

The last wild buffalo in Colorado was killed after a law was enacted protecting the bison at all times. One of our readers now offers to sell buffalo in car-load lots.

The heath-hen became extinct in New York after a law was enacted prohibiting the shooting of heath hens.

Breeders will not continue to breed wood-duck and other fowls if the laws be made to prevent their shooting, selling and eating them.

They will produce millions of wood-ducks and other food fowls provided it pays to do so.

We hope the laws made to carry the treaty into effect will provide that birds produced by industry are exempt.

THE EFFECT OF GOOD LAWS.

The immediate effect of good laws making game breeding legal and encouraging the new industry is evidenced in many stories written by men and women in all parts of the country and printed in this issue.

All of these stories indicate a healthy interest in and enthusiasm about game breeding.

Mr. W. R. Hinde, one of our Iowa members, distinctly points out the rapid increase in the numbers of game birds

which followed instantly the enactment of a liberal law in his State.

"On account of the game laws," he says, "we only raised a few birds for our own use until last year, when an amendment was passed allowing a breeder protection.

"Now we are raising more and we expect to increase our flocks each year.

"I think this law will do a great deal toward increasing the game in Iowa.

"I am very much interested in the work of The Game Conservation Society and in The Game Breeder. I wish this magazine could reach every hunter in the country. If it could, soon there would be a demand all over the United States for common sense laws."

Iowa has a capable State game officer. See that he is kept in office until the State becomes a big game producing State.

Incubators.

A game keeper who called at the office of The Game Breeder a few days ago said he had great success in hatching wild ducks in incubators sold by the Spratt's Patent, Ltd. He has a 100 per cent. hatch of wild ducks and an excellent percentage of pheasants.

Literature.

Tales of duck and goose shooting, illustrated, edited and published by William C. Hazelton, Chicago, \$2.00 postpaid.

This is an interesting book, containing many remarkable tales of wild fowling at some of the famous American shooting grounds.

"Jumping Ducks on Current River" is a well written story about duck shooting in the ozarks, by John B. Thompson. This is followed by an original story by Clyde B. Terrell, "Duck Hunting on Skis."

Many other good tales are told by those who have shot on the Susquehanna Flats; at the Big Lake, Arkansas, one of the best mallard lakes in the world; at Reelfoot, Tennessee; Pamlico Sound, North Carolina; at Storm Lake, Nebraska; and San Francisco Bay and in Manitoba.

There are many good pictures in the book and our readers will be pleased to be reliably informed about the famous American resorts for wild ducks and geese. The book is interesting from cover to cover and many of the stories will be read more than once by those who purchase it. The address of the publisher is Wm. C. Hazelton, Pontiac Building, Chicago.



Hand-reared Mallards. Courtesy of W. S. McCrea.

From *Talks of Duck and Goose Shooting*.



Blue Geese at Avary Island. Courtesy of Edward A. McIlhenny.
From Tales of Duck and Goose Shooting.

Game Eggs.

We would advise all our members to send their egg advertisements now for the January number. Some of the large breeders have secured space for egg advertisements to begin in January, and we are sure that early advertising produces the best results. To be sure of securing space in the January number, copy for the advertisements should reach us not later than December 10. Better send it along now, while you think of it.

Important.

We again urge our readers, who have not done so, to write for the catalogue of traps and the illustrated booklet, "The Newhouse Trappers' Guide," issued by The Oneida Community, Ltd. The catalogue is a work of art with excellent pictures of the traps. The booklet is well worth having, since it tells how to control the game enemies and save the game.

Write today to The Oneida Community, Ltd., Oneida, N. Y., and sign your letters and post cards in the usual way, "Yours for more game."

Editor Game Breeder:

I am writing to call your attention to the proposition in the forthcoming elec-

tion in which the voters are asked to ballot on a ten million dollar bond issue to add to the Adirondacks, Catskill, and Palisades Parks. I believe this to be a good thing for the preservation of our forests and the wild life that inhabits them, and trust you may feel disposed to give the matter the hearty support which it seems to justify.

Yours very truly,

T. GILBERT PEARSON,
Secy. National Assn. of
Audubon Societies.

We are heartily in favor of the proposition and advise all our readers to vote for it.—EDITOR.

Worth Having.

Readers who wish additional copies of the illustrated booklet "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure," can procure them by writing to The Hercules Powder Co., Wilmington, Delaware. Game breeders will find this an excellent book to give to their friends who may become interested in game farming. Whole neighborhoods have been converted by this book and game is plentiful in places where it was scarce. Sign your letters and post cards, "Yours for more game," and the books will be sent by return mail.

QUAIL FOR SALE

For immediate shipment and at
attractive prices.

GEORGE J. KLEINE

NATURALIST

ELLINWOOD - - - KANSAS

Reference by permission, THE GAME BREEDER.

GAME BIRDS FOR PROPAGATING PURPOSES

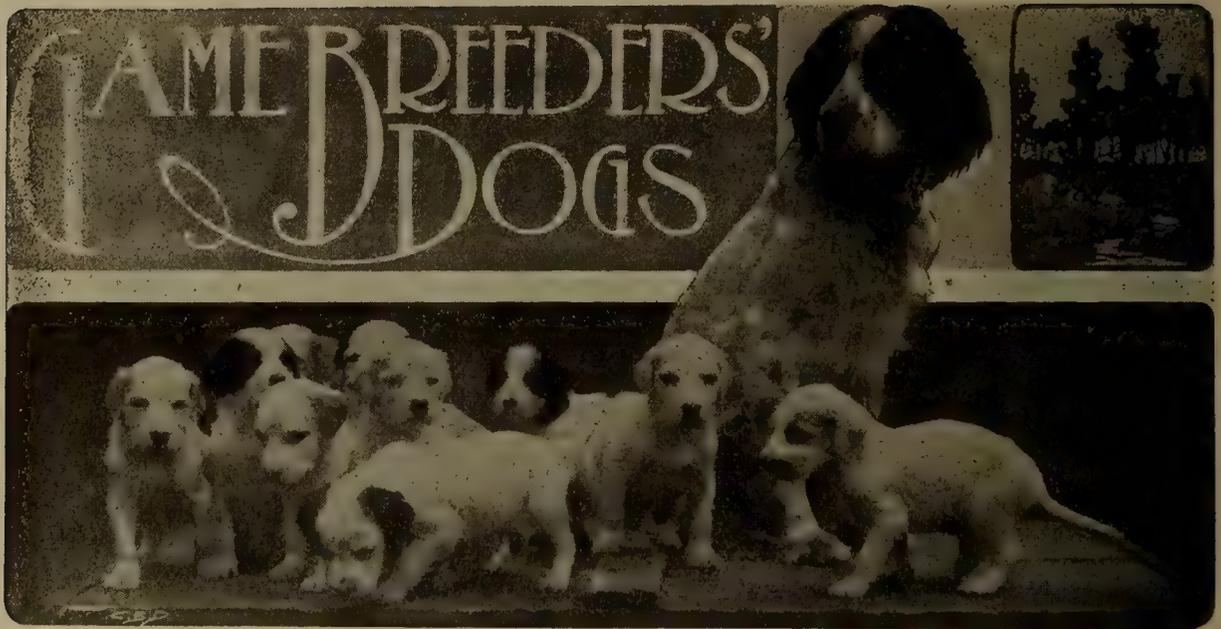
Genuine Wild Mallards, Black Duck, Green-wing and Blue-wing Teal, Pintails, Gadwalls, Shovellers, Wood Duck, Widgeon, Red-heads, Blue-bills, also a few pairs of extra choice Canvas-backs and Ring-bills; Canadian, Greater and Lesser Snow, Ross, Brant, Hutchins, Cackling and Blue Geese, supplied for propagating purposes. Finest quality in the country.

Golden, Silver, Amherst, Reeves Pheasants at reasonable prices. I also am booking orders for ring-neck Pheasants reared on my preserve for delivery in early fall.

I also have rare land and waterfowl from all parts of the world. Prices quoted for the asking.

JOHN HEYWOOD, Gardner, Mass.

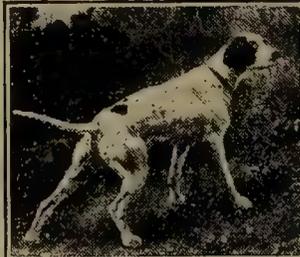
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Shooting Clubs and Game Farms

The Game Breeder has assisted in the formation of many shooting clubs and game farms. We are preparing a booklet on this subject, containing testimonials. Those who desire information on either subject, or information about the new Game Breeders' laws, are requested to write to us. The service is free to those who state that they deal with advertisers in The Game Breeder and who are contributing members of The Game Conservation Society or subscribers to The Game Breeder. Letters should be addressed to the

Information Department of THE GAME BREEDER, 150 Nassau Street, New York

Land for Game Preserve and Country House Near New York For Sale.

About three hundred acres on the Mianus River in Greenwich, Conn., may be purchased at present for one thousand dollars per acre. Suitable for a magnificent country house site, with surrounding forest like that of English estates. A mile of beautiful trout stream and a newly made lake of several acres on the place. Owner will not divide the tract. Its peculiar value rests in the combination of forest, cliffs and stream in a tract of this size so near to New York and to the social centers of Greenwich and Stamford.

Nothing similar can be purchased because nothing similar remains so near to the city. It will naturally continue to increase in value as a plain investment for this reason.

Deer and many other wild animals and birds now on the place.

**Address Advertising Department, The Game Breeder,
150 Nassau Street, New York City.**

A New Book on Increasing and Attracting Birds

“The Propagation of Wild Birds: A Manual of Applied Ornithology”

Treating of the practical, detailed Methods of Attracting, Propagating and Increasing all Kinds of desirable Wild Birds, Song and Insectivorous Birds, Upland Game Birds, and Wild Water Fowl in America. The Directions include furnishing Nesting Devices, Planting of Estates, Feeding Birds, and successful methods of artificial and natural propagation.

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Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 3 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

THE GAME BREEDER

150 Nassau Street

New York City

LIVE GAME

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1000 PHEASANTS
Selling out at a sacrifice. Entire stock of over 1000 thoroughbred Chinese Ring-necked and Golden Pheasants. Write first and have your pick. **PHEASANT FARM**, 1046 Benton Street, Santa Clara, California.

QUAIL, PARTRIDGES, WILD FOWL, DEER AND other animals. See display advertisement in this issue. **WM. J. MACKENSEN**, Proprietor Pennsylvania Pheasantry and Game Park.

CANADA WILD GEESE AND THEIR GOSLINGS—A limited number for sale now—the surest way to start breeding this species. We are the oldest and largest breeders of Canadas in this country. Black and White Swans, Wild Ducks, etc., for sale. **WHEALTON WATER FOWL FARMS**, Chincoteague Island, Va.

PIT GAME FOWL, COCKS, STAGS, HENS AND young trios, best strains, reasonable prices. **WALTER FORRISTER**, Framingham, Mass. 5t

FOR SALE—GOLDEN PHEASANTS, WRITE FOR prices. **FRED GUENTHNER**, 1538 Washington Ave., Piqua, Ohio.

FOR SALE—BUFFALO AND ELK IN CAR LOAD lots or single. Deer, Antelope, Beaver, Mink, Mountain Lion, Pheasants and Game Birds. Eggs in season. **KENDRICK PHEASANTRIES**, Coronado Building, Denver, Colorado.

PHEASANTS, BLACK DUCKS, MALLARDS. For Sale—Golden and Silver Pheasants, Black and Mallard Ducks. For particulars, address Manager, **TIMBER POINT FARM**, Great River, Long Island, N. Y.

BLACK SIBERIAN HARES: SIBERIAN HARE CO., Hamilton, Canada. **GUARANTEE:** Safe delivery is guaranteed on all hares sold and if not up to the purchaser's expectation may be returned within a month and the money will be refunded. **REFERENCE: THE BANK OF HAMILTON**, this City.

FOR SALE—EXCELLENT PURE BRED, FULL plumed, pinioned Lady Amherst, Golden Silver and Ring-necked Pheasants. Wanted, Mongolions and Elliots; state quality and price. **ROBINSON BROS.**, Aldershot, Ontario, Canada.

WILD MALLARD DUCKS. NO LIMIT. 100 BIRDS, \$110.00—12 Birds, \$15.00—pair, \$2 75. Mail draft. Shipped Mondays. English Callers, Trio, \$5.00. **C. E. BREMAN CO.**, Danville, Ill.

WILD TURKEYS—For prices see display advertisement in this issue. **W. J. MACKENSEN**, Yardley, Bucks County, Pa.

FOR SALE—Pheasants and eggs. Everything in the pheasant family. Pamphlet with order free. **BUCKWOOD PHEASANTRIES**, Dunfield, Warren Co., New Jersey. (10t)

PHEASANTS FOR SALE.—CHINA, AMHERST, Reeves, Mongolions. Also Five Trios Silvers, Forty Dollars. **DOTYS**, Pheasant Farm, Marmot, Oregon.

PURE BRED WILD WATERFOWL AT FOLLOW. ing prices: Mallards, \$3.00 per pair. Pintails, \$2 50 per pair. Green Wing Teal, \$4.00 per pair. Blue Wing Teal, \$3.00 per pair. Also re-headers, Gadwalls, Widgeons, Canvasbacks, Spoonbills, at reasonable prices for propagating and scientific purposes. **GEORGE J. KLEIN**, Ellinwood, Kansas.

SAN LORENZO GAME FARM — BREEDER OF all kinds of pheasants; eggs in season; also birds for sale at all times. Visitors welcome. Write for price list. **MRS S. MATTHIESSEN**, San Lorenzo, Alameda Co., California. 7-16

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATED PHEASANT BREED-ERS. Pheasants, Quail, Mallard price list. **FRED D. HOYT**, Hayward, Cal.

Gray Star Pheasantries

Breeder of all kinds pheasants, strictly fresh fertile eggs, in season. Birds for sale at all times. **GIF-FORD G. GRAY**, Ward St., Orange, N. J.

FOR SALE: MALLARDS FOR PARTICULARS and prices, write **GUSTAV GLOCK**, Smithtown Branch, Long Island, N. Y.

FOR SALE GOLDEN AND RINGNECK PHEAS-ants. **W. S. ALLISON**, Merrimacport, Mass.

PHEASANTS
BEAUTIFUL YEARLING GOLD PHEASANT cock and two fine hens for sale cheap, have not room for them and must dispose of them. **IRA N. DELINE**, Olympia, Washington.

GOLDEN PHEASANTS
Am going out of game business. Have 12 Golden Pheasants for sale. Write me. **ROY E. McFEE**, Canajoharie, N. Y. R. 2.

RINGNECKED PHEASANTS
For Sale—Three young ringnecked pheasant cocks. **WALTER CAMPBELL**, Ford City, Pennsylvania.

PHEASANTS
Golden Silvers and Ringneck; for sale. Write for prices. **W. N. HASLETT**, The Kansas Pheasantry, Independence, Kansas.

FOR EXCHANGE
Exchange: Will exchange my entire loft pigeons and chickens for pheasants, quail and fancy ducks. No reservations, changing from one fancy to other. References exchanged. **A. T. LEVINE**, Attorney, Nashville, Tenn.

In writing to advertisers please mention The Game Breeder or sign your letters: "Yours for More Game."

LIVE GAME WANTED

WANTED—WOOD DUCKS, MANDARIN, RUDY, Sheldrakes, Black Mallards, also Barnacle and Indian Barrhead Geese and Swan in exchange for Mallard Pintail and Blue-winged Teal. FAIR CITY GAME PARK, Huron, S. D.

WE WILL PAY TOP MARKET PRICE FOR Ruffed Grouse, Prairie Chicken, Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse, Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse, Canadian Ruffed Grouse, Dusky Grouse. Also for Canvasback, Bufflehead, Old Squaw, Golden-eye, Ringbill and Lesser Scaup Ducks. CHILES & CO., Mt. Sterling, Ky.

WANTED—MONGOLIAN AND RINGNECK PHEASANTS and deer for breeding. Also cub bear. Give description and prices. CLARE WILLARD, Allegany, New York.

WANTED—WHITE PEAFOWL, EITHER SEX, Pied Peafowl, Soemmerring, Cheer, Haki and German Peacock Pheasants, Ruffed Grouse, and White Squirrels. Also Swinhoes; state price and number. R. A. CHILES & CO., Mt. Sterling, Ky.

WANTED, SEVERAL PURE BRED MUSCOVY Ducks without any white feathering. JOHN C. PHILLIPS, Windyknob, Wenham, Mass.

PRAIRIE GROUSE WANTED

I wish to purchase six pair of prairie grouse, also a ruffed grouse. Will pay a good price for same. Address READER, care Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., New York.

WANTED WILD DOVES AND WILD PIGEONS. All species, foreign and native. West Indian species particularly wanted. Give full information and particulars. Not interested in Ring Doves. H. R. NOACK, 309 Perry St., Oakland, Calif.

DUCKS WANTED

Anyone who can furnish us some Canvasback Duck eggs next year will please write us quoting price. CHILES & COMPANY, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

DEER WANTED—Wanted, one pair of adult fallow deer. State price. A C C., care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

PHEASANTS AND DUCKS WANTED

We are in the market for any varieties Fireback, Tragopan, Temminck, White Crested Kalij, Napoleon Peacock, Whitetailed Pheasant of Thibet, White Pheasants, Formosan Pheasants, Argus Pheasants. In ducks; Bufflehead, Old Squaw, Goldeneye, Redhead, Canvasback. CHILES & CO., Mt. Sterling, Ky.

GAME EGGS

FIRST PRIZE WINNING RINGNECK PHEASANTS. Place your orders for stock and eggs now, also several varieties of bantams and hares. Prices reasonable. CHAS. G. BOLTON, Zieglerville, Penn.

PHEASANT EGGS—PER DOZEN, GOLDEN \$5.00. Ringneck \$3.50. One dollar deposit now insures early spring delivery. "Goldbank" M. B. Turkeys. Big boned, lusty young toms, \$5.00 up.
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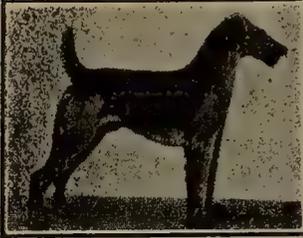
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STATE of New York }
COUNTY of New York } ss.:

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared D. W. Huntington, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of The Game Breeder, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Name of—

Publisher—The Game Conservation Society, Inc.,
150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Editor—D. W. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Managers—The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

2. That the owners are:

The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

STOCKHOLDERS—C. B. Davis, Grantwood, New Jersey.

F. R. Peixotto, 55 John St., New York, N. Y.

A. A. Hill, 71 Murray St., New York, N. Y.
D. W. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

J. C. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

D. W. HUNTINGTON,
Editor of Game Breeder.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of September, 1916.

Cora M. Clark,
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(SEAL.)

My commission expires March 30, 1917.

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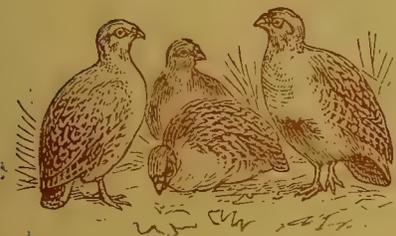
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X.

DECEMBER, 1916

No. 3

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Editorials—Reflections on the Outlook—Our Annual Game Dinner—Correspondence, Trade Notes.

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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME X

DECEMBER, 1916

NUMBER 3



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Game Breeding Popular.

Reports from the States which have enacted laws encouraging game breeding indicate that such laws are popular. Not only the sportsmen who have organized game breeding associations and shooting clubs but also those who have not done so are benefited by the rapid increase of the game.

As we predicted, comparatively little of the land which was posted against all shooting has been required to make the game abundant in counties where there are game-shooting clubs which produce thousands of game birds.

The "noisy sanctuary" where the shooting is lively during a long open season is more beneficial to all hands than any quiet refuge occupying a similar area, because hundreds of birds go out from places where the shooting is lively.

=

Mallards on Long Island, N. Y.

Since the Game Breeders' Association set the fashion of breeding mallards for sport many members of the Game Conservation Society and some of the clubs of Long Island, N. Y., have undertaken this industry with great success. Reports coming to our survey indicate that large numbers of mallards are being shot this fall, not only on the numerous breeding grounds but also on the public waters. One of our readers reports that he and his friends have been bagging the limit.

Before mallard breeding was undertaken on the island this duck was only an occasional visitant and it was unusual to see more than one or two mallards in the day's bag—more often none. There

is better mallard shooting on Long Island than there is in some of the States where the mallards once were plentiful.

=

Mexican Quail.

The opening date for the importation of quail from Mexico was postponed for some reason from November 1 to November 13. We repeat our hope that quail with stomach aches will not be as promptly discovered by the "hoss-doctors" (on the authority of a reader) sent to the border to inspect the birds and that if this or any other complaint makes its appearance it will not be made an excuse to prevent the importation of healthy birds. We shall observe the performances on the frontier with interest and let our readers know how many quail are imported. We hope there will be hundreds of thousands of birds.

=

New Game Breeding Associations.

It is gratifying to observe that many new game-breeding associations are being started in the States where game breeders' laws have been enacted. Often we are asked to give advice and to assist in the organization of these interesting places where the shooting soon becomes good during long open seasons.

Some of the trap shooting clubs are taking our advice and are becoming game breeding associations. They will find it highly desirable to have good game shooting during six months in the year beginning in the late summer, where they have grouse, and extending throughout the winter. The trap shooting will be kept up with additional interest when there is a prospect for good game shoot-

ing later. The clubs which have fish also are attractive throughout the year.

Game Birds for Game Breeders.

We take pleasure in printing the following advertisement of the California Fish and Game Commission which appears in "California Fish and Game," the bulletin of the department:

GAME BIRDS FOR SALE.

The stock of game birds at present held at the State Game Farm at Hayward will be sold at reasonable prices to game breeders. The species represented are: ring-necked, golden and silver pheasants and valley quail. Ducks of the following species are also offered: mallard, pintail, spoonbill, cinnamon teal, green-winged teal and fulvous tree-ducks. Apply to Superintendent, State Game Farm, Hayward, Cal., for prices.

We have entertained the opinion for some time that the California Commissioners would be in favor of making California a great game-producing State. The department will become of great economic importance to all of the people and the sportsmen of all classes soon will have excellent shooting. They will be surprised as sportsmen have been in other States at the good results which will follow as surely as the night follows the day.

Meeting of the State Game Officers.

At the recent meeting of the State game officers held at New Orleans nothing of great importance seems to have occurred. Resolutions were adopted favoring the creation of State departments in the States which have not created them and favoring the prohibition of the sale of game, we are told. Dr. G. W. Field of Massachusetts telephoned he would send us a copy of the resolutions, but they have not reached us as we go to press.

Game Breeding in Virginia.

Although the clerk of the new State game department of Virginia wrote a letter to a New York man who contemplated purchasing a farm in Virginia, in which he said he could not give him any encouragement if he wished to breed game, we believe that the people of Vir-

ginia who are breeding game and who sell live game and eggs will not be interfered with. The legislature in attempting to save the vanishing wild game certainly did not intend to prevent farmers and other citizens from making the game profitably plentiful.

Any officer who may insist that farm values must be depreciated or that those who are breeding and selling wild ducks, turkeys and other game produced by industry must go out of business soon will hear from the people on the subject.

The arrest of a farmer for having domesticated fowls in his possession will be an easy way of committing political suicide if our opinion of the people of the commonwealth and their intelligence is correct.

Overstocked with Mallards.

One of our Illinois members says he went in for "more game" and quickly found himself overstocked. He has sold many mallards, but has about 600 remaining which he wishes to dispose of at \$1.00 each. He would have no trouble were it not for the legal restrictions which tend to "protect the game off the face of the earth." There can be no doubt about his owning the game; that he produced it by industry and at some expense. There can be no doubt that mallards are very good to eat and that the people of New York are willing to purchase the food at such attractive prices as to make it worth while to produce more game—much more in fact so that the shooting can be very lively. We believe the food should come to New York markets without interference. We doubt if the State legally can permit its citizens to sell such food and can at the same time exclude the food offered from other States. Who but a fool can imagine that such restrictions will encourage the production of desirable foods in large quantities?

The Wood Duck in New Jersey.

Some of our New Jersey members own good flocks of wood ducks. Some of these birds were purchased from game farmers; others were reared from the purchased stock.

We were asked recently by an owner of wood ducks in New Jersey if he could move his birds to a new farm in New York and if it was legal to have wood duck in New York?

In answer to an inquiry addressed to the New Jersey Commission the Secretary wrote that it was illegal to move the ducks from New Jersey and also to have them in possession in that State.

Since the birds, in some cases, are pinioned, their liberation would undoubtedly result in their destruction by natural enemies or by cats, dogs or rats. If the Secretary is right in his opinion that the ducks cannot be held in possession or moved from the State it would seem that the only thing which can be done is to turn the ducks out and let their enemies devour them. The laws, it would seem, are intended to "protect the wood duck off the face of the earth."

Since, however, the laws referred to were enacted after the wood duck were purchased, we have advised the owners of the ducks, which are tame domesticated fowls, that the laws were probably intended to apply to wild wood ducks which are said to be owned by the State. It is fair to presume that the legislators have ordinary common sense, and that they did not intend to provide for the destruction of property owned by citizens of the State. It is hardly to be presumed that the legislature intended to depreciate the value of farms and country places and they certainly would be so depreciated if the laws say that owners of ornamental fowls must see that they are destroyed.

It is legal to have wood duck in possession in New York. Many may be seen at the Zoo and on country estates.

We have advised our member that he owns the ducks he purchased and that he can take them with him when he moves.

It should not be a crime to rear any species of food on a farm. Look at your game laws and see what they say about the vanishing grouse and quail.

Subscribe to The Game Breeder, \$1.00 a year.

Regulations Governing the Importation of Quail Into the United States From Northeastern Mexico. Effective November 13, 1916.

Pursuant to authority conferred by law upon the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Agriculture, permits for the importation of quail from northeastern Mexico will be issued by the Department of Agriculture, but in order to prevent the entry of quail infected with the disease commonly known as "quail disease" such permits will be issued subject to the following rules and regulations:

REGULATION 1.—APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS .

Applications for permits must be made to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and must state the name and address of the applicant, the place of shipment, whether the birds will be offered for entry at Eagle Pass, Texas, or at New York, N. Y., the date of probable arrival at port of entry, the approximate number of birds in the consignment, and the name and address of the consignee.

REGULATION 2.—PORTS OF ENTRY

For the purposes of these regulations the ports of Eagle Pass, Texas, and New York, N. Y., shall be inspection and quarantine stations, and permits will not be issued for the entry of quail from northeastern Mexico through any other port.

REGULATION 3.—INSPECTION

Quail from northeastern Mexico will be subject to examination by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry before they will be allowed to enter. Birds entered at Eagle Pass, Texas, will be subject to inspection and quarantine for a time sufficient to cover the period of incubation of quail disease, but not less than 10 days, counting from date of arrival at the quarantine station. Birds entered at New York which have been under observation during the voyage for sufficient time to cover the period of incubation of the disease may be entered, in the discretion of the inspector, without further delay if found on inspection to be free from disease, but if any symptoms indicative of quail disease are present the entire consignment shall be quarantined for a period not less than 10 days and held subject to special instructions from the Department of Agriculture.

REGULATION 4.—PERMITS

Permits for the entry of quail from northeastern Mexico will be issued only to applicants who are prepared to ship the birds in sanitary crates and to care for them properly during the period of quarantine. Crowding birds in crates in excess of the limit hereafter specified, removal of dead birds without submitting them for examination by the inspector, failure to clean or disinfect inclosures or crates or to maintain or ship the birds in a sanitary condition after due notice by the inspector will be considered sufficient grounds for withholding further permits during the season.

REGULATION 5.

Permits will be issued only for the consignment of quail entered on the date indicated and not several consignments due to arrive on different dates. If the number entered is less than the number stated in the permit, the excess over the number imported can not be entered thereafter under that permit but must be included in another application for permit.

REGULATION 6.

Permits for the entry of quail at Eagle Pass, Texas, will be issued only after the applicant has made the necessary arrangements for care of the birds during quarantine and the inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry has approved the location where the birds are to be quarantined and is satisfied that the applicant has an ample supply of crates for the proper accommodation of the birds. Permits authorizing the entry of more than 1,000 quail at one time by any one person or his agents will not be issued until the inspector shall have certified to the department the number of birds which can be properly cared for in quarantine at one time by such applicant.

REGULATION 7.

Permits will be indorsed by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry "Inspected and found free from quail disease" before the quail are released from quarantine and before the permits are accepted by officers of the customs.

REGULATION 8.—CRATES

Crates for the shipment of quail must be constructed with a tongue-and-groove bottom and false top of stout cloth or burlap stretched taut and smooth, so as to leave a space not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches between the cloth and the top of the box. Each crate must be provided with a handle at each end. Not more than 24 quail shall be placed in a single small crate or compartment, and not more than 48 in a double crate.

Crates must measure *inside* not less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height (from floor to cloth cover), 23 inches in width, and 23 inches in length; and double crates $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, 23 inches in width, and 45 inches in length, with a partition separating the two compartments. The partition must be fastened with screws or otherwise, so that it can be easily removed. The bottom must project in front or along the sides 2 inches or more to prevent crates from being stacked close together and thus cutting off ventilation. Openings in the side of the crate at least half an inch wide must be left along the floor to facilitate cleaning, and holes for ample ventilation must be bored in the ends and in the partition. Crates must have a sliding door fitted on one side large enough to permit the birds to be easily examined or removed.

Receptacles for feed and water must be so made as to insure thorough cleaning, and must be so arranged that they can be fastened securely when the crates are in transit, or re-

moved readily for cleaning or refilling. Food and water receptacles must be arranged so that they can be filled from the outside of the crate and protected by a low guard or strip to prevent the birds from walking in them. Bottoms of crates must be arranged so that they can be removed when necessary to facilitate proper cleaning or disinfecting.

REGULATION 9.—QUARANTINE

During the period of quarantine the birds must be confined in suitable inclosures or crates and furnished with sufficient food, sand, gravel, and pure water. No quail will be quarantined on any ground which has been occupied by poultry during the year immediately preceding or which is within 50 feet of any premises where poultry is kept.

Birds may be quarantined in either inclosures or crates. Inclosures constructed of wire netting at least 8 feet wide and 25 feet long may be used to confine the birds, or the quail may be kept in crates, but not more than 200 quail shall be kept in the same inclosure and not more than 24 quail in a crate during quarantine. Entry of quail will not be permitted when crowded in crates in excess of numbers specified in regulation 8 or when confined in ordinary boxes or poultry crates. If shipping crates are used, the birds in one compartment must be transferred to a new crate and the partition removed, so that not more than 24 birds will be confined in a space 23 by 45 inches. Crates kept outdoors must be raised not less than 18 inches from the ground, and if several crates are stacked on top of one another a 2-inch strip of wood must be placed between the crates, and the top crate must not be more than 5 feet above the ground. In case of rain or heavy winds provision must be made for covering the crates with oilcloth or heavy duck.

All inclosures or crates must be kept in a sanitary condition subject to the approval of the inspector. Birds imported on different dates must not be confined together and crates must be emptied before being disinfected. Importers will be required at their expense to provide suitable inclosures or crates for the purposes of quarantine, to disinfect the crates or *transfer the quail to new crates before release from quarantine*, and to maintain the birds during quarantine.

REGULATION 10.—DEAD BIRDS

Bodies of birds which die during the period of quarantine must not be destroyed until submitted to the inspector for preliminary examination, and if necessary such specimens will be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture for further examination.

In case of discovery of quail disease further entry of birds may be suspended and all outstanding permits immediately canceled.

These regulations shall become effective immediately.

B. R. NEWTON,

Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary of Agriculture.*

Washington, D. C., November 13, 1916.



John Heywood at his Game Farm.

THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED ORNITHOLOGY OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY.

Photographs by the Author.

BY HERBERT K. JOB.

My esteemed friend and fellow-worker, the Editor of *The Game Breeder*, has asked me to write of the work of this Department under my charge. It was organized two years ago, on August 1, 1914, as the official recognition by The National Association of Audubon Societies of the value and importance of the rapidly growing nation-wide movement, which it had long fostered, toward popular undertaking of practical measures for the increase of wild bird life of *ALL* useful types. As part of this important program, the propagation of wild game species, *for whatever purpose*, is thus recognized and encouraged. The idea that the Audubon movement is narrow and fanatical, opposed to properly regulated hunting, is thus shown to be absolutely groundless. This great pioneer association, which expends annually over one hundred thousand dollars for the protection and increase of wild bird and animal life and for the education of public sentiment for conservation, recognizes the great services of the real sports-

men of America and the similarity of ideals, and hence is in constant co-operation with them.

In starting this new work, our first need was found to be for a "How to Do" literature, for general distribution, giving full practical details of methods, particularly in artificial propagation matters. Thus it fell to my lot to prepare two illustrated pamphlets or "Bulletins," on "Propagation of Upland Game-Birds" and on "Propagation of Wild Water-Fowl," of which ten thousand each were published and distributed under a special fund. Also we put on the market a general Manual—"Propagation of Wild Birds,"* covering the whole province of "Applied Ornithology." Thus provided, we are now able to furnish printed instructions along all lines of practical conservation and propagation of game and other wild birds.

Those who begin such work are often confronted with special problems in

*For sale by *The Game Breeder*.

which they need advice. To give such aid we carry on a large correspondence, and are glad to answer all inquiries. I am also undertaking to make personal inspections of estates and preserves, to make suggestions or to lay out new plans. A large number of such inspections have been made, both of small estates and of large or public enterprises. Of the latter type was a recent inspection of the Harriman estates and the State Park, at Arden, N. Y. On this tract of over thirty thousand acres, including many lakes, a plan was arranged, and is under way, of breeding wild ducks for liberation and at the same time stocking the lakes with natural food plants attractive to ducks, to the end of holding them and establishing their breeding in the wild state. Certain city parks, such as the park system at Wilmington, Del., have been inspected with reference to a system for attracting small birds for the pleasure and instruction of the public. Small land-holders are also encouraged to make their property attractive to birds or game. Farmers are shown how they can produce game-birds or water-fowl for table or for market, and land-owners in general are encouraged to feed, attract, and protect insectivorous and game species, both as an aid to agriculture and for their own enjoyment.

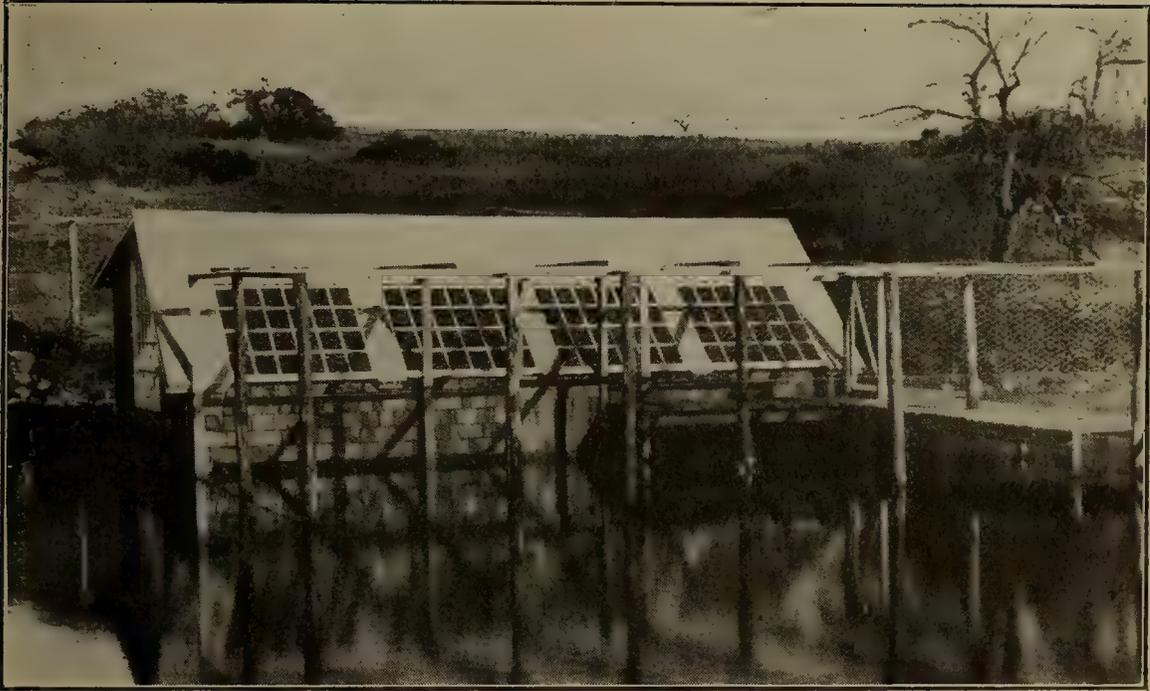
Another method has been to secure for estates and preserves a competent game-breeder or manager, to work out plans in co-operation with this Department. Following are instances of such work. On the estate of U. S. Senator George P. McLean, Simsbury, Conn., the breeding of quail and ruffed grouse have been carried out with good results, in charge of Amos E. George, game-keeper. Another case is of the Bridgeport, Conn., Hydraulic Company, for which the Department secured the employment of Ludwig Seidler on the Reservoir grounds, where he has made a brilliant success of quail raising, on a plan similar to that for pheasants, with modifications. Still another is the breeding of quail and canvasback on the estate of William Rockefeller, Tarrytown, N. Y., under Arthur M. Barnes, who was already in charge there.

Lecture work is constantly maintained by the Department, to interest and instruct the public. To provide fresh illustrative material, I have already photographed seven reels of motion pictures, covering the subjects of wild ducks and geese on the Louisiana Refuges in winter, game propagation, attracting birds, the great breeding colonies of water-birds, and the home life of our common birds. Some of these have been shown in theatres over the country.

Scientific experimentation, with practical ends in view, is being carried on. Such efforts have already resulted in the breeding of the canvasback in captivity. During the past summer a new and successful experiment has been carried out in northern Canada in rearing young canvasbacks, redheads, scaups, and golden-eyes or "whistlers," under a new method of feeding and management. By this plan the young have matured in splendid condition, with almost no loss. Apparently these methods will solve the problem of rearing the young of most of the species more difficult to handle.

In order to carry on experimental and demonstration work in the various branches of applied ornithology under our own immediate supervision, concentrated in one locality, and easily accessible to the public, the Department is now establishing an Experiment Station of The National Association of Audubon Societies. This is at Amston, Connecticut, on the Air Line Division, between New Haven and Willimantic, ten miles from the latter, and within easy walking distance of the railway station. Mr. Charles M. Ams, well-known as "the man who bought a town," who owns the village and surrounding region, and is a Life Member of this Association, has signed a contract giving to the Association the use of this great property for the above purpose.

Included in the tract is a beautiful lake entirely owned by Mr. Ams, which is said to have a shore-line of nine miles. This overflows through a swampy pond, sending down constant supplies of small fish and other natural food, the most ideal place for the propagation of wild



Winter Quarters for Wild Ducks

ducks that I have ever found. This pond, together with adjoining swamp and grass land, has now been enclosed, with a high vermin-proof wire fence, for an experiment in the breeding of wild ducks. To winter the stock in good condition, an aquatic house has been constructed out in the water, on a plan of my own, based upon ideas kindly furnished by my friend John Heywood. It provides a room 24x16 feet, under glass to the south and west, two-thirds of which is a swimming-pool, the rest a floating platform, capable of accommodating about two hundred ducks. There they can swim in comfort, with constant flow of fresh water under the house. The breeding-stock will consist of nearly all important species of North American

wild ducks, and varied interesting researches will be carried on.

Other work, as soon as feasible, will be started with upland game-birds, the attracting of birds, and the growing of natural food-plants for wild birds. Mr. Ams also is operating an immense poultry plant and various projects in breeding fine strains of farm animals, and also projects in scientific agriculture, under the name of "Royal Farms." He is now equipping an Inn, to accommodate guests and students who may be drawn there to see and learn. The large lake is splendid for boating and fishing, and summer camps and cottages may be established for the right sort of people. It seems more than likely that Amston will become a notable center of research and instruction.

WEASELS AND HOW TO CATCH THEM.

BY M. J. NEWHOUSE.

The weasel belongs to the mink and ermine family and is not only the smallest of the carnivorous animals but the most destructive on a game or poultry

farm. They are very quick in movement and always on the go. Their activity shows to best advantage when in close proximity to young poultry. They

are not satisfied with killing what they need, but simply for the sport oftentimes killing from 10 to 18 chicks in one night. They have regular runs which they follow about once a week.

About the best method of capturing them without running any risk of catching a pet cat, or poultry, is to set a No. 0 Oneida Jump Trap in each end of a hollow log about six inches back, scattering a few old dead leaves or other light natural looking litter over passage, as well as over the trap after having previously placed a dead mouse, bird, portion of a rabbit, or a chicken head beyond the trap as bait—a little tuft of

chicken feathers is also very attractive to them. In the absence of a hollow log, a very good substitute is a tile $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches inside diameter, or larger. If tile is too large, one or more sticks pushed into the ground will reduce the opening so as to prevent catching pets or chickens.

Still another way is to set up on edge a small door or wide board leaning back against a coop or building, placing traps at either entrance with bait or tuft of feathers between traps.

With a No. 1 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ Oneida Jump this same set works admirably for mink or skunk.

MALLARD BREEDING AT FRIENDSHIP FARM.

By MRS. FLETCHER HARPER.

I bought my original Mallard stock in the West—five ducks and one drake. Not knowing anything about raising ducks of any kind, I made inquiries and was told that I must surely feed the young ducklings on wild duck meal. The time came for the ducks to hatch and I had neglected to get the meal so I started in feeding the young ducks with bread and a few handfuls of middlings and plenty of sand mixed and dampened enough to make the mixture crumbly.

The eggs were hatched under hens and the ducklings had free range from the time they were a few days old—but they had no pond. I found that during the first ten days they needed to be fed four times a day but later three times a day was sufficient. When the birds were a month old I tried putting boiled potatoes in their food. I wanted to see just how cheaply they could be raised. By giving a ration of half mashed potatoes and the rest middlings, bran with a little corn meal I found their board bill was not running up too high.

When the ducks were feathered out and almost ready to market, I fed potatoes, bran and corn meal in the morn-

ing, all potatoes at noon, and bread soaked in skim milk at night. I bought the bread from a hotel, all the broken pieces from the dining tables. I paid sixty cents a barrel for it. This makes cheap food and the hogs ate all that the ducks could not.

I have kept the wings clipped as I could not bear the idea of any of them flying away.

This year I kept twelve ducks and three drakes and I have had plenty of eggs to sell at 25 cents each. I raised sixty young ducks last year but I did not attempt to market them as we ate a great many and gave some away. It would be difficult to say just what it cost me to rear a Mallard. It was less than a dollar, I should say, and apparently it is always easy to get three dollars for them. I sold a pair of drakes last fall for ten dollars and they were shown at the Boston Poultry Show, where they won. I am afraid that my way of raising Mallards will not appeal to a sportsman. However I get a great deal of amusement out of it, some very good eating and a fair amount of cash.



The Cats.

SOME CATS AND A DOG.

BY WILLIAM DAY,



This is the Dog that Worried the Cats.

chased by Mr. Adams for that business, and got eleven cats. (Note the picture marked No. 1, taken back of the Coast Guard Station by Mr. John Kililea.) Previous seasons it has been very easy to pick up large numbers of small terns in the nesting season, killed by these animals. Picture No. 2, by courtesy of Mr. Edward Howe Forbush, are cats that were shot on the Martha's Vineyard Reservation during the winter of 1915 and 1916. As the reservation is situated four miles from any village, you will realize what a pest these cats are to the Heath Hens, and all bird life. It must not be construed that any of these were tame, all of them are semi-wild, and very shy.

Massachusetts.

Massachusetts still is in the lead as a game producing state. It has the most liberal law, encouraging game breeding. No charge is made for the game breeders license. There are hundreds of breeders of big game and feathered game and many game fish breeders.

Knock out the nonsense in the game laws and the game breeders will do the rest. Quickly the country will produce all the quail and other game the people can eat.

Superintendent Heath Hen Reservation. I read with interest the May Game Breeder, in which was printed "More Cat Tales," and I thought the following might be of interest to game breeders and bird lovers. Acting under instructions from Mr. William C. Adams, chairman of the Massachusetts Fish and Game Commission, I went to Muskeget Island in March, 1916, with a dog pur-

FISH-BREEDING WATERS.

BY GEORGE H. GRAHAM,

Massachusetts Commissioner of Fish and Game.

I believe that all of our eastern states, like Massachusetts, have hundreds of swamps that are worthless and with a small outlay they can be transformed into beautiful lakes and made to produce large quantities of fish which will not only afford food but sport as well. Very few people realize what can be done with an old bog or swamp and all they need is to be told how to do it and what kind of fish to plant. I am in hopes to issue a bulletin during the next few months which will give all the necessary information that may be required to do this work. Just imagine a pond of ten acres, well stocked with brook trout or small mouth black bass, see what an income it would be for the owner to let people catch the trout or bass at 50 cents per pound. Such a pond ought to take care of 5,000 trout from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 lb. each. Let the owner sell these fish at 50 cents per pound and he will realize much more profit from the 10 acres of the old swamp land than from any other part of his farm. The same will be equally true of the small mouth black bass. Another thing the land owner will do at the same time he makes his lake for fish, is to create a number of beautiful building sites for camps and bungalows, which, when sold, will net him a tidy sum.

All artificial ponds are under the control of the riparian owner and he has the absolute control of all the fishes in these ponds, no matter how large the body of water may be. I have urged every man who has an old swamp that contains springs and where he has a stream of water running all the year round, to clean out the swamp and make a fish pond. Quite a number of people are doing this today. Here in Massachusetts we have over 1,100 great ponds and our commission has undertaken to stock these ponds every year. We realize that the public will always have the right to fish in any of these great ponds and

during the past three years our commission has established a new policy of stocking our ponds with food fish, such as dike, perch and bass.

We have had an experimental station at Palmer, where we hatched about 25,000,000 fish this year and where we are now at work building a large hatching building, which will have a capacity of 200,000,000 of fish every year.

In our trout and salmon hatcheries we are now producing nearly 6,000,000 a year and with intended improvements we will soon be able to produce 10,000,000. It is the aim of the present commission to put Massachusetts in the front rank of all the states with regard to fish and game. I wish you could run up here and go with me out to our Wilbraham game farm, where we now have 1,600 young pheasants, 1,200 young Mallard ducks, 75 young wild turkeys and a lot of quail and white hares. We have three other farms besides this one and hope to liberate a large number of birds this year. We are trying to interest farmers and clubs all over the state to raise game and fish and I believe, in spite of our large and increasing army of sportsmen, that we will be able to have better fishing in Massachusetts ten years from now than we ever had.

I am sending you an item from the printed report of a talk I gave at the annual meeting of the Greenfield Sportsman's Club.

Our readers will observe that we have enlarged The Game Breeder, adding more pages of reading matter and several pages of advertising, the last named are interesting and valuable to those who wish to procure good eggs, birds, etc. There is a call also for rabbits and quail from an Ohio game farm which some of our readers should answer. We are glad to observe that our readers are responding to our call for an increased membership. See that the cards come in.



Mary Rahlman.

THE CALIFORNIA VALLEY QUAIL.

By MARY RAHLMAN.

The California valley quail, a shy and dainty game bird, thrives in Southern California. It roams among our orange and lemon groves, hung with jewels green and gold; its cheerful notes are heard calling from the cactus and the tufted fields of wild sage which extend to the azure foot-hills not far away.

This beautiful little crested partridge is admired by hundreds of tourists who annually visit the land of sunshine and roses. Exquisite are the white pencilings on the slate-blue feathers; it has a jaunty black plume on the head which curves gracefully forward. There is a decided resemblance between the mountain and the valley quails of California, the chief difference being in size; the mountain bird is considerably larger than the valley quail. The mountain quail, as its name indicates, inhabits the higher altitude, but, these birds thrive in the low country when held in captivity.

Most delightful of all occupations is the rearing of game birds in this beautiful semi-tropical climate where the skies are always blue. Matchless are the days of sunshine of beautiful Southern California, tempered by the gentle sea-breezes of the grand Pacific Ocean, the deep blue waters of which are not quite ten miles away.

Our pheasant farm is located near Santa Ana (forty miles south of Los Angeles). Here we raise hundreds of pheasants annually and also we are rearing some fine flocks of valley quail. The eggs of the California valley quail are a trifle smaller than the bob-white eggs; they are white and covered with tiny brown flecks.

In this dry climate I prepare the nest for setting quail eggs exactly as I do for the pheasant eggs. With a shovel I scoop out the earth making a small basin some four inches deep, and I fill this with

water. After the water has all seeped away, and before the mud has dried I make a dry nest with hay in which I place about twenty quail eggs. Upon this little nest I put a very small, gentle bantam hen.

The young quail are hatched on the twenty-third day—the dearest, tiniest, fluffy bits of birdies, only a trifle larger than a bumble-bee; yet how active they are, always running, always hungry, always busy little bodies.

Great care and thoughtfulness must be used to prevent the escape of the wee birds from the nest when hatching. They are left undisturbed in the nest until twenty-four hours old. After which they with their foster mother are removed to small coops about three feet square in which they are kept three or four days. The floor of this coop being kept well supplied with crushed wheat, fine grit, charcoal and a shallow dish of water. Three times each day I feed them a small amount of hard boiled egg. On the fourth day they are removed to inclosures about six feet square where a goodly supply of crushed wheat, grit, charcoal and water is kept before them constantly. I feed them three times daily a small amount of hard boiled egg.

At the beginning of the fourth week all food is removed from the coops after which they are fed four times each day, just the amount they clean up nicely, three feeds of crushed wheat and one small feed of boiled egg at noon.

Grow! does not begin to describe the rapidity of their development into the most charming of American game birds.

After two months old they are fed sparingly morning and night on crushed wheat; at noon a small amount of boiled egg. About twice a week a very little green food. Occasionally a small feed of ripe figs, of which they are exceedingly fond. How many of my readers can pick delicious ripe figs fresh from the tree upon which to feed their much-treasured game birds?

Only a few short years ago my home was east of the Rockies where the drifting snow storms blow in winter and the drenching rain and electrical storms rage in summer. Such climatic conditions

cause many ailments among the feathered tribe. There I made a special work of raising turkeys, raising hundreds of them each season. I find my past experience with turkeys of great value to me in the rearing of game birds as they are constituted so nearly alike. We find a complaint among quail, known as the quail disease, similar to the disease, known as black-head among turkeys. In handling young turkeys I observed they could be kept vigorous and thrifty by feeding them each day a bran mash in which I had mixed a poultry tonic, Dr. Hess' Poultry Panacea, mixed according to directions on the package giving the best result.

Quail are very hardy; they have wonderful vitality until they are almost grown but at this age, for a few weeks, they are *very* susceptible to the complaint known as quail disease, for which in the last stages there is no known remedy. But I find by keeping the growing birds thoroughly vigorous and thrifty this disease can be entirely avoided. When my quail are about half-grown I commence (and continue thereafter), mixing about one-fourth of a level teaspoonful of the above mentioned tonic into about seven hard boiled well ground up eggs. This will be sufficient for the noon-day meal for about seventy-five quail.

A very important rule to ever remember after quail are three months old, is to feed very, very sparingly, always knowing a hungry quail is *never* a sick quail.

How well they enjoy a "hike" around the place with their dear little bantam mother of whom they are very fond. And how proud she is to rear these popular game birds.

They become very gentle on account of my method of capturing them when occasionally an almost full grown bird escapes from his yard, I simply throw feed on the ground around me to which my dear little quail friend comes delighted and I quietly stoop and pick him up returning him to his yard.

After they almost reach maturity they are placed in a large inclosure where they enjoy more liberty. This inclosure

is shaded by a large pepper tree, its fern-like foliage mingled with the clusters of bright scarlet berries drooping gracefully over their yard. Here their cheerful, genial call can be heard frequently.

My dear reader, do you not sympathize with me—surrounded by such delightful climatic conditions—well located to raise hundreds of these, our own

native game birds, when I say the present game breeding laws of California make it almost an impossibility.

As we experienced so much difficulty in securing a permit for our seventy-five quail, I fear if we should ask for a permit to have several hundred birds, the shock would cause the untimely demise of any game commissioner of California.

QUAIL BREEDING AT THE ARDEN GAME FARM.

BY C. H. SHAW.

You will understand, no doubt, that we are not handling anything except the California Valley Quail.

As to the size of enclosure for stock birds, we have found that about 1,200 square feet of ground is sufficient for 100 birds, and this number is allowed to run together as one flock. In feeding the old birds, we do not use anything except a mixture of broken grain and seeds, together with green stuff of some sort, or, in lieu of the green stuff, ripe apples.

As to nesting facilities, they should have numerous places where they can hide their eggs. We gather them every day, and the birds will, as a rule, select a different place nearly every day for laying. In this climate, they begin to lay about the middle of April and are likely to continue up to the first of August.

We use bantam hens exclusively for hatching, and do not consider that anybody is warranted in attempting to brood these birds artificially. The loss is too great. As to feeding the young quail, we do not use any of the soft foods, custards, etc., which are recommended by some of the breeders. We feed them the same as the old birds are fed from the beginning, with the exception that the grains and seeds are more carefully selected; also we give them green stuff from the beginning. We confine the brooding hen in a coop, from which the young birds are allowed to range in a separate enclosure, and believe this

method is safer than allowing the hen to range with them, at least during the first two or three weeks. Following these methods, we have this season hatched fully 99 per cent. of the eggs and brought to maturity 95 per cent. of the birds.

These birds are quite shy in the beginning, becoming more and more tame and easily handled as they grow older. They will, of course, become just as wild as anybody may desire to have them, if they are liberated when they are obliged to take care of themselves.

In regard to the photographs, during the last two or three weeks we have not had weather which permitted obtaining good pictures. We have taken a number of small ones, but they did not seem to be good enough to warrant sending them to you. At the very first opportunity, will try to get a professional photographer to come here as you request and make some pictures worth using, and hope to obtain them soon enough so that you can have them for your December number.

How absurd it is to arrest and jail breeders if they profitably look after the quail and grouse and make them plentiful.

How absurd it seems for the laws to permit the breeders only to look after common species of game which least need their attention.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

A New Pheasant Breeder.

The Game Conservation Society.

This is the first season I have raised pheasants. I raised eight males and one female. Would you advise me to purchase females for the males, that is, pay \$120 for 40? I could not use all the eggs, and I have no market for those I would not use. Do you think if I did this I could sell what I would not hatch myself?

Would you advise me to advertise? One hundred and twenty dollars is a considerable sum for me, and I should want to be reasonably sure of a certain return.

Can I get good English ringed-neck pheasants for less than \$3 each for females.

I am a reader of your magazine, and I feel that you should know just what to do. Any advice or information you may give me will be greatly appreciated.

FREEMAN H. WHEELER.

[By all means purchase the hens if you can for \$3.00 each. Hens have been selling for \$4.00 recently. An advertisement will surely sell the eggs.]

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Wild Ducks Overabundant.

Editor Game Breeder:

I have about 600 mallards still unsold—full blooded stock—and wish to sell them for eating purposes. I read in your paper that there was a good market in New York. I am for "More Game," but find I have it overstocked.

E. B.

Illinois.

[We are writing to the N. Y. Conservation Commission to see if you can ship to the New York market. Will let you know the result. Many of our members in other states now send wild ducks and other game to this market. You may be up against a legal absurdity, but we hope this is not the case.—Editor.]

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More Mallards.

Editor Game Breeder:

I have about 20 pairs of mallards which I would like to sell. If you hear

of any hotel which would take them please let me know. C. D. M.

New York.

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I still have about 150 mallards to sell.

CLYDE B. TERRELL.

Wisconsin.

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Mr. V. R. Fishel, Hope, Indiana, writes that he would like to send some of his ducks to the New York market.

Sorry for you, Mr. Fishel, State game office reports there is a "fool law" in the road.—Editor.

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Breeding Blue Pea Fowl.

Editor Game Breeder:

I recently read a statement that the male blue pea fowl is absolutely of no value for breeding purposes until three years of age, at which time he arrives at full plumage. I am breeding these birds and last year bred a male in its second year that had not grown its eye feathers. I bred it with a two-year-old hen with the result that the hen laid and raised five peaks.

In the catalog I refer to it is said "The pea hen does not lay until two years of age, then two eggs, and at three years from three to four eggs, gradually increasing until seven years of age, when she lays eight eggs, after which time the number of eggs grow less every year. Now that is erroneous and misleading. In the Spring of 1915 we hatched and reared on our farm a peahen. This past Spring of 1916 she was bred with a three-year-old male and she laid three eggs and hatched them successfully and from the three eggs we raised three beautiful peaks.

The writer says that if a three-year-old hen lays four eggs, she must not be disturbed until the fourth egg is laid when you may take it from the nest and that in about ten days she will make another nest of four eggs, when you may set her on the eight eggs, but that is the limit of her laying. That is erroneous. I have one hen on our place that I purchased from C. Lovett in the Fall

of 1915 and kept it until the past Summer, when I penned it with a two-year-old male. The hen laid and as fast as she laid I gathered the eggs, never leaving a single egg in the pen if I saw it. Sometimes the hen laid each succeeding day and sometimes each alternate day. She laid during the season twenty-two eggs and each of the twenty-two eggs was fertile and each of them was hatched at our place. The author that I criticise undoubtedly has been misled by the statements of others. It is well to add that all of the peafowl eggs hatched on our place were hatched under turkeys or ordinary hens, and we now have two peaks, one male and one female, about four months old, that are still being mothered constantly by a Rhode Island red hen that hatched them. The fact is that peacocks are reared exactly as turkeys are and are no more difficult and are no more easy to rear than turkeys.

JNO. W. TALBOT.

Notes by Peter P. Carney.

The Du Pont Powder Co.

Buckwood Farm, on the Jersey side of the Delaware Water Gap, one of the finest game preserves in the Eastern States, has been given to the State of New Jersey by C. C. Worthington. The Farm swarms with deer, rabbits, quail, wild duck, woodcock and other birds. It comprises several thousand acres.

Bears have become so plentiful in the vicinity of Williamsport, Pa., that citizens several times lately have had to form posses to drive them into the mountains.

Wisconsin has become such a favorite place for wild game hunters that there is danger of all wild life being destroyed unless some changes in the laws are made, and the Wisconsin Game Commission is planning the changes now.

How absurd it is to think that wild turkeys reared and donated by members of a Society can not be eaten in New York.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.



RADFORD MERRITT HALLOCK

Photograph made at Sunapee Lake where Dean Hallock, General Merritt and Harry Radford met a short time before Radford went to the Arctics where he was killed by Eskimos.

Quail a Nuisance.

Charles Hallock, the dean of American sportsmen, writing to The Game Breeder, says that he has just had an interesting ramble in the District of Columbia with another young man (aged 81, just one year younger than Hallock is). He says:

"My companion, Sea Captain T. B. Smith, who was born in Ceylon, and I just returned from an interesting tour of observation through the Argyle property, District of Columbia, which was noted as an extensive farm previous to our Civil War. As we walked along the country road within fifteen yards of a residence adjacent to the Argyle, we flushed a covey of nine quail or partridges out of a bunch of crab grass beside the road. An employe told us it was against the law to shoot the birds in this District and, he added, 'the fields adjacent to the woods are full of them. They are becoming a nuisance.' Under the circumstances it would seem that a license might be issued to worthy sportsmen.

"During our ramble we had a brief chat with a colored woman of about 70 years or so, who said she was born in slave times 'befo de wah, close by.'"

It would seem that sea faring and field sports are conducive to a happy old age if those who are eighty may be considered old.

The Live Game Market.

We have a scarce article. Genuine Hungarian Paprika, small can 19c.
 Rose Queen Soap, 10 bars 50c.
 Ivory Soap, 2 large bars 15c.
 Wood Clothes Pins, 3 dozen 5c.

**Live Mallard Ducks,
 each \$1.00**

Spring Leg of Lamb, lb. 18c.
 Spring Lamb Fronts, lb. 14c.
 Spring Lamb Chops, rib or loin,
 Hind quarter Lamb, including
 lb. 18c.
 Choice Pot Roast, very tender

Clipping from Minneapolis.
 Paper sent by Frank I. Blair.

The market for late birds for next spring's breeding and for the fall shooting has opened strong.

We heard of some Mexican quail which were offered at \$15 per dozen, but we predict much better prices will soon be asked for these birds and, as the breeding season approaches, the prices will rise rapidly even if many thousand of birds are imported, as they will be if no "fool restrictions" are imposed.

Comparatively few northern and western quail have been offered for sale. The lowest price for these birds we have heard of was \$25 per dozen. Later the dealers who have this stock can charge much more for it and we expect to report sales at higher prices.

Owners of wild turkeys seem to be aware that the demand exceeds the supply and they are in no hurry to sell. The eggs brought from \$12 to \$15 per dozen last spring and every egg offered was sold, we believe. A bird that will lay from 25 to 50 dollars worth of eggs in the spring must look very good to its owner and we are not surprised that the turkey breeders ask good prices for their birds and are in no hurry to part with them.

Deer and elk are selling readily at from \$25 and \$35 up. The breeders seem to sell all their stock readily and report that it is not necessary to advertise. We have had some inquiries for deer and have referred those who inquired to our members who sell deer.

We predict there will be a big demand

for eggs and those who advertise early will get the best prices.

Later reports as we go to press are that pheasants are selling for \$7.00 per pair and \$4.00 each for extra hens, and the prediction of the larger dealers is that the prices will go still higher as the breeding season approaches. It seems likely the excellent little book about pheasants, written by Mr. E. A. Quarles for The Hercules Powder Company has stimulated the interest in pheasant breeding which already was large and growing rapidly.

Stock ducks, the Mallards, are very abundant and the prices have fallen somewhat. Ducks are for sale in some of the Western markets as food as low as \$1 each. The price is somewhat better in New York. Pure bred Mallards still sell much better than the half-bred fowls which are not nearly so satisfactory for sporting purposes.

The big demand for quail remains and the price is about what the owner wishes to charge, anywhere from \$36 per dozen up. Some quail breeding operations in the west if successful, as they seem to be, will bring the prices down a little, possibly. We believe there will be many big quail ranches or game farms before the price is much reduced and there is no more interesting industry for farmers, men, women or boys, who would like to make a fortune than the quail breeding industry is. The birds can be bred in big numbers in quiet and safe fields at small expense and a big quail ranch easily should make \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year. On land used for agriculture, a very good by-product the quail promises soon to be. The Game Breeder now goes to many granges and to some big land owners in the west who are inquiring about quail breeding.

Prairie chickens are scarce and high. They can be reared in large numbers inexpensively on the same ground with quail at a profit of from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per bird and probably more. Only a few birds have been sold to eastern breeders, and these brought excellent prices, \$5.00 per bird and up.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.



More Cats.—See article by Wm. Day, page 77. Photograph by E. H. Forbush.

Well Worth It.

It seems we made a mistake in stating that the excellent illustrated booklet about trapping vermin, issued by The Oneida Community, was for free distribution. They charge 25 cents for the book, and it is well worth the money. Those who wish to get this instructive and educational work will please send 25 cents, coin or stamps, with their orders. If you will sign your letters in the usual way, "Yours for More Game," the advertiser will know who is "doing it" and you will help the cause by so doing. The booklet is called The Newhouse Trapper's Guide, and the address of the Oneida Community, Ltd., is Oneida, N. Y. We suggest that you write today, before you forget it.

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Mallards Abundant on Long Island, N. Y.

Editor Game Breeder:

I do not think there is any doubt that mallard ducks are more abundant on Long Island this year than usual. At the Southside Club we have killed now something over a thousand ducks and eight or nine per cent. of those have been mallards. We think there are more wild mallards this year than ever before, doubtless attracted by the number of

bred mallards in our part of the country. Usually wild mallards are rather scarce on the south side of Long Island.

JULIEN T. DAVIES.

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Early Nests.

BY E. A. McILHENNY.

The following item might be of interest to some of your duck breeders.

The Southern Black Mallards at the Louisiana State Game Farm started nesting about three weeks ago, and we have a number of settings of eggs under hens. I thought probably this was an unusual condition due to the birds being in captivity and getting extra good feed, but on a recent trip through the McIlhenny-Ward Game Preserve on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of October, I and my men found seven nests of the Southern Black Mallards, four with eleven eggs each, one with seven eggs, two with eight eggs. All of the ducks are setting. We also saw two broods of young ducks which were not more than from a week to ten days old, and one brood of young ducks about three weeks old. The cattle men state that they had found a great many nests within the last couple of weeks.

I would like to know if you have heard of any other nests of the Southern

Black Mallard at such a late date. There were more Black Mallards raised in this section last summer than I have ever known before, and when I was on the Game Preserve a week ago these birds were as plentiful as Greenheads are in the mid-winter.

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Pheasant Pens.

Editor Game Breeder:

I write to ask if you can put a large number of ring-necked breeders in a big pen without the cocks fighting. In other words this is just what I would like to do, rather than have the trouble with individual pens, but my information thus far has been that you have to make small pens in order to put a limited number of hens with one cock.

I would much rather build a big pen and have them all in there together because it would be simpler, easier and more attractive to handle; but I have always understood that ring-necked cocks fight so badly that this is impossible.

STUART OLIVIER.

[The modern way to handle pheasants is in large enclosures. We had several hundred pheasants in one pen at the Game Breeders' Association on Long Island and we had very good results. I prefer a pen made of board sides so that the pheasants cannot see out and they are not disturbed by passing dogs or other animals. The board door of the pen can be locked with a padlock, and the birds are safer in such a pen. The roof can be made of chicken wire but it should be laid on somewhat loosely so it will give when the birds fly up against it. I am sending you a sketch which will give you an idea of the pen. The brush indicated is made of cedar boughs or other brush. The entrances to the brush heaps lead to an avenue down through the center. A little fighting among the cocks, I believe, is good for them, and there will be better results when the defeated birds can escape through the brush heaps and join the hens which may be on the other side. You will find such a pen very interesting.]

I am sending you the address of a large breeder in your neighborhood who no doubt has a large breeding pen. I would advise you to write to the game keeper and make an appointment to see the pen.—Editor.]

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Wild Duck Breeding and Incubators.

We have fitted up a place for raising wild ducks on a large scale, our experience of last season having convinced us

that we have a location with great advantages for this work—mild, even, climatic conditions; abundance of fresh water, good land and close proximity to the marshes used by the wild ducks.

We will take pleasure in furnishing you full information as to our work. One point which may prove of interest is that we intend to use incubators and outdoor brooders almost exclusively, as we had better results by this method last season than with hens.

We used Spratt's Duck meal exclusively for the first three or four weeks, and kept the birds away from water until they were well feathered. We would be glad if you could tell us whether any of the Eastern men in this work have devised drinking dishes which the young birds cannot empty almost immediately and if so what the design is.

ARDEN GAME FARM.

[Some use poultry fountains, but on large places the water is piped to the rearing fields and the keepers easily can keep water in the pans for the ducks. Some use a large, shallow trough containing water about an inch in depth, and the young ducks enjoy wading in this and have plenty to drink.]

Homing Ducks.

Dear Mr. Huntington:

On February 22, 1916, I shipped to Mr. W. S. McCrea, Lake Geneva, Wis., a number of Wild Mallard Drakes trapped at Avery Island. All of these birds were marked by me for identification with the web cut next to the outside toe on the right foot. On receiving these birds Mr. McCrea tagged them with his personal tag, clipped their wings and turned them loose with his flock of tame Mallards. On November 2, 1916, while trapping Mallards at Avery Island, I caught a Mallard Drake bearing identification mark of the previous spring and Mr. McCrea's tag. On writing Mr. McCrea, he stated that these ducks with others that he had had after growing their flight feathers spread over the adjoining country. The interesting fact is that this Mallard trapped at Avery Island in the spring and sent by train to Wisconsin returned to Avery Island in the fall and was again trapped.

E. A. McILHENNY.
Avery Island, La.

More About Ant Eggs.

Rev. H. A. Macpherson, an English authority on game birds, writing about young partridges, says: "When the little fellows emerge into the world, they soon learn to take care of themselves, but the pupae of ants are requisites for their successful rearing.

"Two very different kinds of ant hills supply the eggs or ant-pupae to the young of game birds, and of partridges in particular. First, there are the common emmet heaps, or ant hills, which are scattered all over the land; go where you will, you find them. These the birds scratch and break up, picking out the eggs as they fall from the light soil of the heaps; the partridges work them easily. But the ant eggs proper—I am writing now from the game-preserving point of view—come from the nests or heaps of the great wood ants, either the black or the red ants. These are mounds of fir needles, being, in many instances, as large at the bottom in circumference as a wagon wheel, and from two to three feet in height; even larger where they are very old ones. They are found in fir woods on the warm, sunny slopes under the trees, as a rule, pretty close to the stems of the trees. The partridges and their chicks do not visit these heaps, for they would get bitten to death by the ferocious creatures. The keepers and their lads procure the eggs of these, and a nice job it is. A wood-pick, a sack and a shovel are the implements required for the work. Round the men's gaiters or trousers leather straps are tightly buckled, to prevent, if possible, the great ants from fixing on them, as they will try to do, like bulldogs when the heaps are harried. The top of the heap is shovelled off, laying open the domestic arrangements of the ant heap, and showing also the alarmed and ferocious ants trying to carry off their large eggs to a place of safety; but it is all in vain. Eggs and all they go into the sack. In spite of every precaution, the ant egg getters do get bitten severely."—*Pall Mall Magazine*.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

Expert Advice.

The Game Conservation Society is prepared to offer expert advice about the purchase of lands suitable for breeding the various species of game. It is most important to select land which is suitable in order to get the best results for sport and for profit.

The society also has experts who will plan the preparation of lands and the planting of suitable foods for upland game birds which are to be bred wild in the fields and it will also send experts to advise about the preparation of duck ponds and marshes for wild ducks.

The Society also is prepared to offer the services of the best expert on fish breeding who will visit the premises and give advice about the erection of fish hatcheries and the planting of fish foods suitable for trout, bass and other game fishes.

Members contemplating purchasing country places for breeding or shooting and fishing are invited to write to the secretary for full information about this new branch of our activities.

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A New Catalogue.

Chiles & Co., Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, have issued an interesting supplement to their catalogue which contains much interesting and instructive matter about the breeding of game birds.

The Timber Point Farm advertises black ducks. Black ducks which will breed on preserves are well worth having. They are especially desirable for New England game farms and preserves, where they will attract many wild birds. A mixed bag is desirable and we have often advised our readers to breed black ducks and other wild fowl besides the common and abundant mallards.

Game breeders should be permitted to trap stock birds on their farms for propagation. There is a scarcity of quail, grouse and other indigenous game birds for propagation purposes.

Crime Zones.

Our comment on the running of the zone lines in a fantastic manner, under the federal migratory bird law, making it a crime to do certain things on one side of the line and not on the other, seems to have resulted in straightening out the line. It no longer runs around the State of Utah, but extends fairly straight across the continent, waving a little at the south eastern boundary of Nevada and thence running in a northwesterly direction to the northern line of California and westward to the Pacific Ocean. Since the regulations probably do not apply to birds owned by game breeders, the matter is not important.

=

The Demand for Live Game.

The game farms report an increasing demand for live birds and some say they can not fill their orders. The prices remain up and are going higher.

The opening of the New York market to the sale of game from other states will result in many thousands of birds being eaten this fall and next winter and the money paid for the food will find its way promptly to those who will produce more game. We realized the importance of opening the best markets to the desirable food long ago. If the game produced by game farmers only could be used as ornaments for lakes and parks, the demand would soon have become less than the supply instead of greater, as it now is.

If hundreds of thousands of birds are eaten this season, as they will be, it seems quite evident that the ratio of production will be geometrical and that millions of birds soon will be sold in the markets.

We invite the attention of sportsmen who questioned our program at the outset to the fact, often stated, that very little land is needed to make America the biggest game producing country in the world.

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The Logical Medium.

I am glad to see the Oneida trap advertisement in *The Game Breeder* and I have written for "The Newhouse Trap-

pers Guide." The magazine is the logical medium for trap advertising.

E. P. ROBINSON,
Connecticut.

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Game Shooting Clubs.

Game breeding associations, even those with small dues, are interesting places to visit. Our readers write that they find it very interesting to spend the week end at the club. During the breeding season there is much to see and later there is very much to do. It is gratifying after spending a lot of money for cartridges to have something worth while to show for the money. The pheasants, ducks, quail, grouse and other game are very good to eat, and they can be made to stop a butcher's bill equal in amount to the size of the club dues, so that in reality the shooting costs nothing.

Dr. Geo. W. Field, ex-chairman of the Massachusetts Game Commission, said to the writer that he deemed it important to encourage the small breeders with only a few birds. We are strongly in favor of game breeding associations with comparatively small dues, which sell some game to help pay their expenses and to help make the people friendly to sport.

The little club house in the country, often a farm house rented for the purpose, becomes the meeting place for people who are interested in game shooting as well as in trap shooting. Some famous game dinners and luncheons are served at such places, and I recall with pleasure the broiled quail often served for breakfast. Occasionally a distinguished visitor drops in to see what is going on; he easily gets permission to photograph the young game birds and before leaving he often makes pictures of the gamekeeper's children. Such visitors often decide to become game breeders and we have had many requests from such people for information as to how to start, the cost, etc.

One thing all agree to is that there is plenty of room for those who wish to have good shooting and that in every case they provide sport for others as well as themselves.

Movies for the Game Dinner.

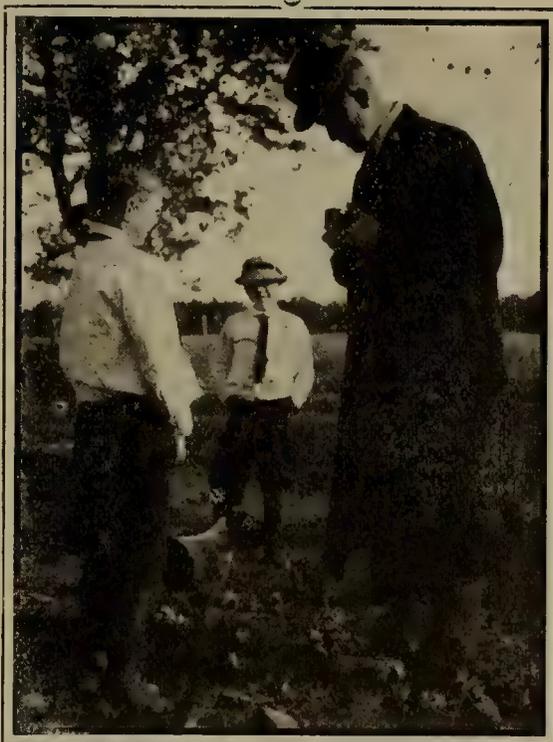
Editor Game Breeder:

I shall be very glad to be with you at the game dinner and will show any films we have. I will surely be with you this time.

HERBERT K. JOB.

Last year, our members will recall, Dr. Job's wonderful moving pictures of wild fowl were side tracked somewhere on the way from New Orleans, where they were shown. We have since had the pleasure of seeing the pictures at the meeting of the National Association of Audubon Societies.

A great treat is in store for those who attend the game dinner which will probably be December 20. The invitations will be out before this number of The Game Breeder leaves the press.



A Distinguished Visitor.

Subscribe to The Game Breeder, \$1.00 a year.

QUAIL FOR SALE

For immediate shipment and at
attractive prices.

GEORGE J. KLEIN

NATURALIST

ELLINWOOD

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KANSAS

Reference by permission, THE GAME BREEDER.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

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10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

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D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

F. R. PEIXOTTO, Treasurer,

J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary.

Telephone, Beekman 3685.

REFLECTIONS ON THE OUTLOOK.

We have in our possession an interesting letter from a State game officer, written to one of our members, in which the officer says, very frankly, he is opposed to game breeding because he does not wish to see the people lose their money in something which can not be done. Some people, you know, he adds, have gone into the chicken business and, not knowing anything about it, they have lost their money. As a hunter of quail myself I know that people who go into game breeding will lose their money; hence I am opposed to it, and opposed to game breeders' laws, etc.

Here we have perfect consistency. The inference is plain that the dear people should be prevented from going into the "chicken business" as well as into game breeding because the paternal game officer (salary about \$4,000 per annum) fears they may lose their money.

The game laws everywhere should be amended so as to provide that the State game officers SHALL (note the mandatory word) issue permits to reputable game breeders permitting them to trap stock for propagation purposes.

It should not be legal to destroy and illegal to create.

Reports coming to The Game Breeder indicate that it will be perfectly legal to breed game for sport and for profit in

every State in the Union within three months, with possibly one exception. In this one State game breeding is thriving without waiting for any legislation. The people seem to have taken our idea that laws intended to save some of the wild or State game from extinction are not intended to put out of business the citizens who own thousands of game birds and are increasing their numbers for sport and for profit. The legislators hardly can be presumed to have any intention of destroying farm values.

It is fortunate that the courts are beginning to see the difference between the abundant game owned by individuals and the vanishing wild life which is said to belong to the State or the Nation—we are not quite sure yet which owns a wild goose flying high. It may be some years before this wild goose question is fully settled, and meantime we have complaints from some of our readers that the wild geese they have purchased and own, did not lay eggs the first season.

Of course not, say the dealers. Who ever heard of a purchased wild goose laying eggs the first season? And so it is our legal knowledge and our wild-goose intelligence grow apace, and, we may add, the pace has been a merry one since the nation-wide educational advertising campaign of The Hercules Powder Company was begun. Game has increased so rapidly since the advertising appeared that we can almost hear the eggs cracking all over the land just as the farmers hear the corn grow after a rain.

Next year we shall devote much space to game fishes and ponds and other waters where they can be made profitably plentiful. The fish and our upland indigenous game will be the two prominent features on our 1917 program.

OUR ANNUAL GAME DINNER.

At the dinner this year two educational subjects will be discussed by experts. Our Game Fishes and Fish Culture, by Hon. J. W. Titcomb, Fish and Game Commissioner of Vermont, and one of the leading fish culturists in the

world, and Foods and Planting for Upland Game, by an expert on this subject. The dinner will be bigger and better than last year but there must be an end to the issuing of the tickets a week, at least, before the dinner is served, since it is not easy to get a large amount of game such as is proposed to be served, in a hurry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor Game Breeder:

I have been watching the most excellent work that your society has been doing, through its organ, The Game Breeder, and I welcome this opportunity to congratulate you.

C. W. DIMICK.

Boston, Mass.

Secretary Game Conservation Society:

Kindly give me information regarding the Game Guild and oblige,

REV. C. W. SIEGLER.

Wisconsin.

[The Guild will have its first meeting in December during the afternoon preceding the

annual game dinner of the society. The rules will then be adopted and the booklet of the Guild will be ordered printed. We will send you a copy.]

Editor Game Breeder:

Your favor of October 26th, asking for information as to the possession of wood duck, received. You will note from consulting the conservation law that section 211, subdivision 1, provides that there is no open season for wood duck. Therefore to possess the same in this state a license would be necessary as provided by section 159, sub-division 2. Yours very truly,

GEORGE D. PRATT,
Commissioner.

By Llewellyn Legge, Chief, D.F.G. C.C.

Our Wild Fowl and Waders

Practical Book on Duck Breeding
for Sport and Profit

\$1.50

The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., N. Y. C.

A New Book on Increasing and Attracting Birds

"The Propagation of Wild Birds: A Manual of Applied Ornithology"

Treating of the practical, detailed Methods of Attracting, Propagating and Increasing all Kinds of desirable Wild Birds, Song and Insectivorous Birds, Upland Game Birds, and Wild Water Fowl in America. The Directions include furnishing Nesting Devices, Planting of Estates, Feeding Birds, and successful methods of artificial and natural propagation.

By **HERBERT K. JOB**

In Charge of The Department of Applied Ornithology of the National Association of Audubon Societies

Fully illustrated with photographs. \$2.50 net.

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<p>10,000 LIVE QUAIL</p> <p><i>Lowest Prices Ever Quoted</i></p>	<p>BOB WHITES BLUE AND GAMBELS</p>	<p>DUCKS GEESE PHEASANTS PEAFOWLS CRANES - STORKS HARES - RABBITS SQUIRRELS</p>
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More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

The Sale of Game.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
150 Nassau Street, New York.

NOVEMBER 15, 1916.

MR. GEO. D. PRATT,
Conservation Commissioner,
Albany, New York.

Dear Sir:

We received a letter today from an Illinois member of our Game Conservation Society, in which he says he has six hundred mallards unsold. These birds were reared by him from purchased stock and I write to ask if he can sell them to the New York hotels, provided, he has a certificate from the state game officer of Illinois, that he is the owner of the birds and has the right to sell them. We are advising our members to live up to the laws whatever they are, but it seems a hardship for people not to be able to sell their food to the New York market. There seems to be an over-abundance of wild ducks in many parts of the country which is largely due to the activity of our members. We would like to use some of these ducks at our game dinner, but we will not accept them unless it is legal to serve them in New York.

Last year we had many wild turkeys donated by our members in several states for our dinner, but we declined to use these after your department decided they could not be served at a hotel dinner. You will be interested to learn

that early reports coming to our game census indicate that our members will have over a million more birds than they had last year, in spite of many hardships imposed by law which it seems to us can be avoided.

We have heard it said that we are in favor of the dealers and the inference is given out that we would favor their violating the laws. This is untrue, of course; we have an absolute rule that we will not accept an advertisement from a dealer who violates a game law, no matter how absurd it may be, and that we will give publicity, as we have done, to those who violate the laws. We are in a very good position to help execute them.

It seems to us that if a state officer will give a certificate to identify the birds, stating that they are legitimate food and if your department has notice of the shipment and directs how they can be sold in New York, this will be a substantial compliance with the New York statute. We are inclined to doubt if the state has the right to prohibit certain breeders from selling their food and shipping it under the inter-state commerce laws so long as it permits other breeders to sell their food. We shall advise our member just what you say on this subject and, if it is decided that these ducks cannot come to the New York market, they can stay out until the wave of common sense.

which has gone over most of the country affects New York. We shall be glad to have you pass on this matter promptly and we will notify our member what the result is.

Yours truly,

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
J. C. Huntington, Secretary.
JCH/TMJ.

THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

ALBANY, Nov. 20, 1916.

MR. JOHN C. HUNTINGTON,
Secy. The Game Conservation Society,
150 Nassau St., New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of November 15th, addressed to the Hon. George D. Pratt, in relation to the importation of game from without the state to be sold in New York State, received. I respectfully quote you herewith section 377 of the conservation law, giving you full information as to the requirements of the law as to the importation of game from without the state into the state:

"Any person engaged in the business of raising and selling domesticated American elk, whitetail deer, European red deer and fallow deer, roebuck, pheasants, mallard ducks and black ducks, or any of them, in a wholly enclosed preserve or entire island of which he is the owner or lessee, under a breeder's law providing for the tagging of all preserve bred game and otherwise similar in principle to the law of the State of New York in such case made and provided, may make application in writing to the Commission for a permit to import such mammals or birds into the State of New York and sell the same. In the event that the Commission shall be satisfied that the said mammals and birds are bred in captivity and are killed and tagged under a breeding law similar in principle to that of the State of New York, upon the payment of a fee of five dollars, together with such additional sum as the Commissioner may determine to cover the necessary cost of inspection, the Commission may in its discretion issue a revocable permit in writing to such applicant to import such mammals and birds raised as aforesaid into the

State of New York and to sell the same, in which case the provisions of sections 372, 373 and 374 of the conservation law, in so far as the same are applicable, shall apply."

I call your attention to that part of the law which requires the state to have a law similar to the law herein quoted before game can be brought into this state for sale; also to the cost of inspection to ascertain the facilities for the raising of game.

The drafters of the law herein referred to believe that an inspection was necessary as to the facilities so as to prevent wild ducks from being placed upon the market in New York.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE D. PRATT, Commissioner,
By LLEWELLYN LEGGE,
Chief, D. F. G., C. C.

L/R.

[This law should be amended so that the game now reared abundantly in other states can be sold as food to the people of New York. If game reared in other states is accompanied by an invoice and a certificate of the state game officer that the game is owned by the breeder, this should be enough. Food production can not be encouraged by the restrictions above quoted. Game farmers and, in fact, all farmers in other states, are much interested in this subject. They are becoming more and more interested, as our mail indicates. Suppose either political party should have a candidate for a national office in New York. Will it be safe to say to the farmers in other states: "Help elect our man and we will see that you can not send any food to New York excepting under restrictions which are prohibitive."

The question has been handled by small politicians long enough. A statesman is needed.—Editor.]

A reader telephoned that he read in a New York paper that an attempt would be made to prohibit quail shooting on Long Island, New York. We hope this is not true. Wonder who can possibly wish to exterminate the quail there. The clubs report many quail.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 3 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

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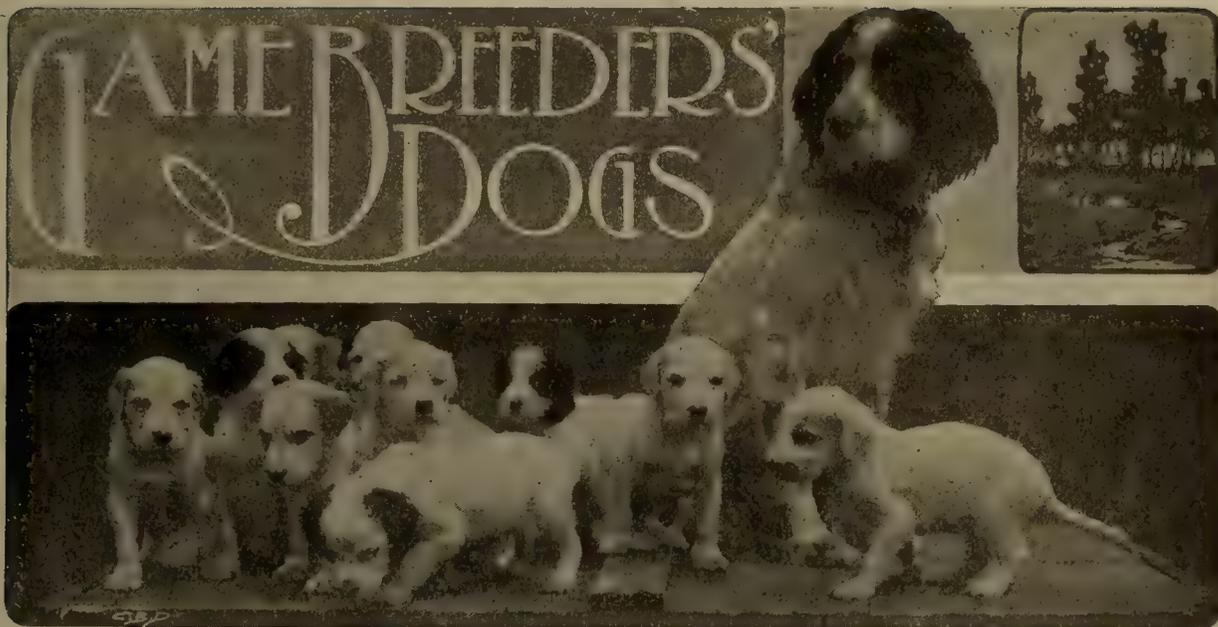
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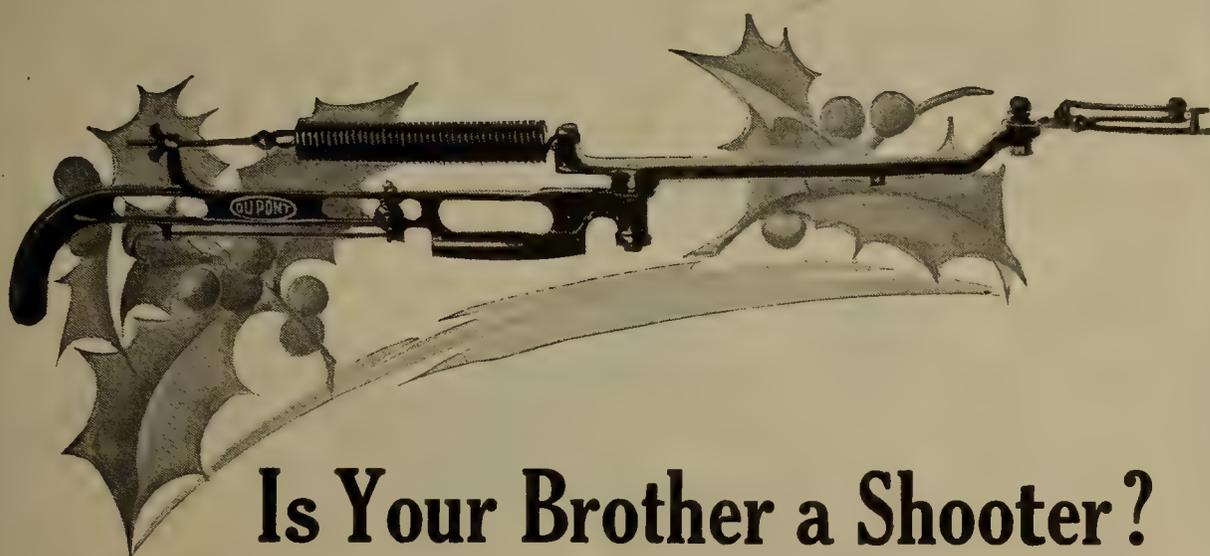
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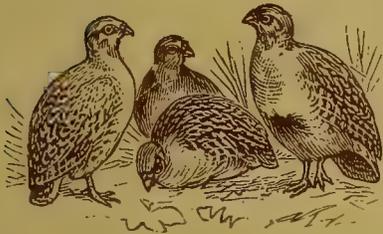
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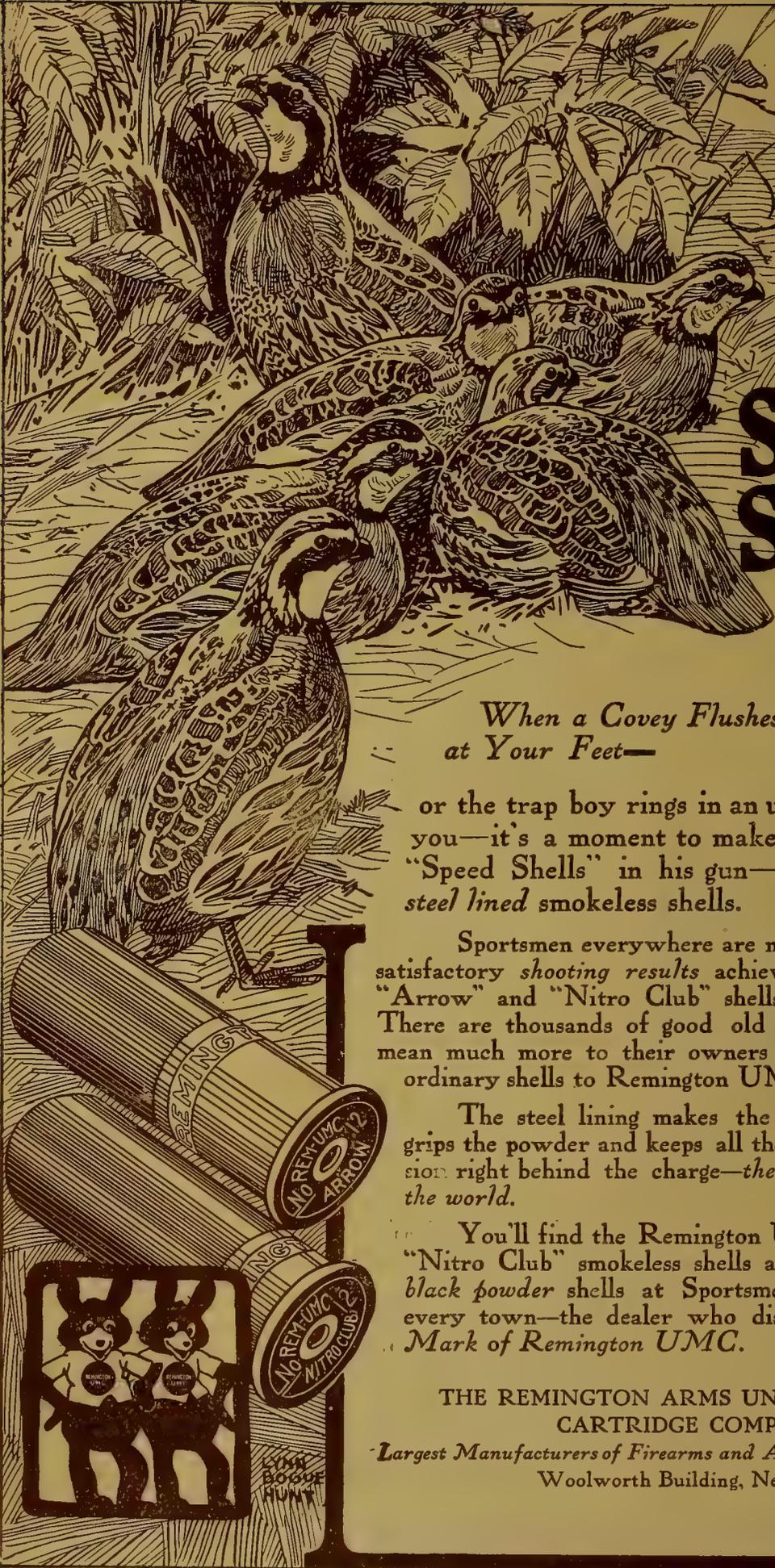
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X.

JANUARY, 1917

No. 4

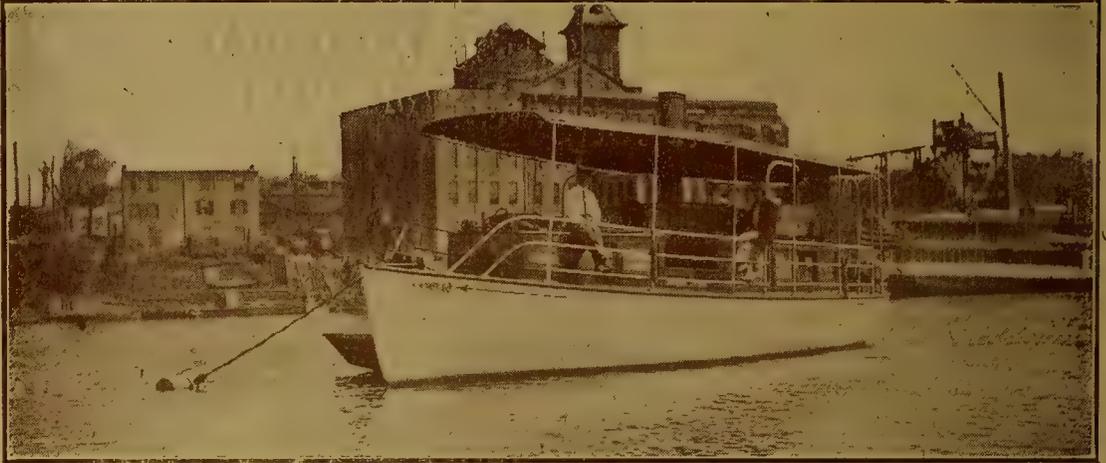
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WILD DUCKS—See Page 111.

C.

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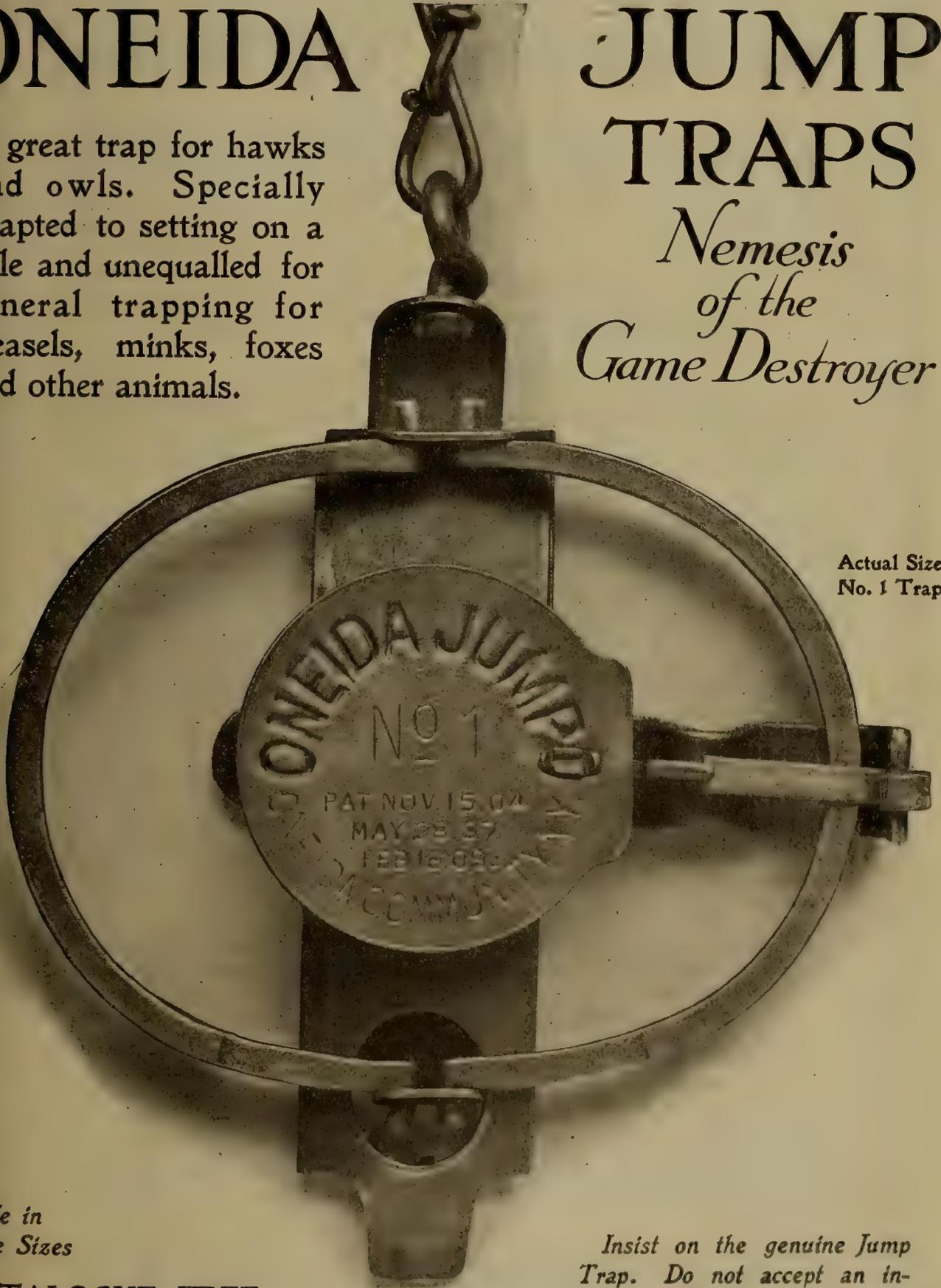
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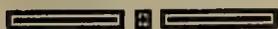
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Correspondence, Trade Notes, Etc.

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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME X

JANUARY, 1917

NUMBER 4



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Our Game Dinner.

It was necessary to prepare this number of the magazine early in order to get the work out of the way before the correspondence and work in preparation for our annual meeting and game dinner was undertaken. A good amount of game and a good attendance is assured at this writing and we shall publish an interesting account of the game dinner in our next issue.

Five or six state game officers will attend the meeting and there will be many members of the local game clubs and many preserve owners and commercial breeders. The meeting promises to be bigger and better than it was last year. Mr. Wm. S. Haskell, attorney, Mr. Fayles, the Secretary of The American Game Protective Association, will represent the Association and the first-named will speak on the new treaty made with Canada for the purpose of protecting migratory birds. Professor Pearson, the Secretary of the Audubon Association, and Dr. H. K. Job, will represent the Audubon Association at the dinner and the last-named will exhibit his remarkable moving pictures made on the McIlheny preserve in Louisiana.

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The Vermonter.

We have received the first copy of The Vermonter, the State magazine, which contains much matter of interest to sportsmen. The leading article, "Our Fish and Game Asset," by Chas. R. Cummings, contains much statistical matter relating to the subject.

Under the efficient management of

Commissioner John W. Titcomb, we are told, "Vermonters have seen a development from a once almost game barren and fished out State to an average annual deer kill of several thousand animals, with unnumbered foxes, coons, skunks, rabbits and squirrels and an incidental accumulation of bears, bobcats and other outlaw 'varmint.' The value of deer killed, at beef prices, has been as high as \$60,000; of fur-bearing animals annually secured, \$150,000, and of wood-cock, grouse and ducks shot, \$40,000."

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Anglers' License in Vermont.

The last legislature, in Vermont, enacted an anglers' license law and repealed the law for an annual appropriation for the maintenance of the fish and game department in all its branches, including the propagation and distribution of fish.

The fee for both resident and non-resident licenses is 60 cents, the non-resident being treated just the same as the resident, "because we want to encourage," says The Vermonter, "people to come here during the fishing season. Along with our scenery and good roads, fishing is one of our greatest attractions."

(Other States might well follow the lead of Vermont and encourage the non-residents to shoot and fish within their borders. One of the outrages of the protective system is that it prevents the visiting and shooting and fishing which should be encouraged.—Editor.)

=

Rabbits Attack a Railroad.

A cutting sent to The Game Breeder, contains the following from Elyria, O.: Rabbits were attacking the Wabash

Railroad at Wellington and he shot them to prevent them from doing damage, is the plea made by Harvey Repp, of Wellington, held in Justice Neling's court on the charge of violating the State game laws by shooting rabbits out of season.

=

More Turkeys.

A dispatch from Grass Valley, California, to *The World*, N. Y., predicts more wild turkeys:

Shooting wild turkeys is going to be good sport in a few years when the birds get numerous enough, to warrant the season being opened for that game. Several years ago Postmaster Hays and Game Warden Ray O'Connor planted a dozen or more turkeys on the Church Ranch in Penn Valley. They now are said to number nearly one hundred. They are very active, and those who have seen them vouch for the statement that the strongest of them can fly a mile. They inhabit oak trees and seem to have no difficulty in getting food. It may be necessary to kill off some of the gobblers in the interests of a larger herd.

=

Malheur Lake.

Professor Pearson, the Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies, says, in *Bird-Lore*:

While in Oregon discovery was made that a land company was quietly working to get the State Land Board to obtain from the Department of the Interior title to Malheur Lake. If the efforts to secure state control of this territory are successful, these land speculators contemplate getting title to it under a recent Oregon law, and then will drain the lake. To my mind this is the most important bird-reservation in the United States. Something of its vast bird-life is well known to bird students through the writings and photographs of William L. Finley and Herman T. Bohlman. Their early explorations into the Malheur country supplied President William Dutcher with the necessary data to use in making application to have the lake made a Federal bird reservation.

Upon learning of the present alarming situation the association at once started a campaign of publicity to draw the public's attention to the threatened destruction of Malheur Lake, and asked that protests be filed with the Oregon State Land Board and with the Department of Interior in Washington. Up to

the present time the matter has not been settled.

On the Malheur Reservation are large breeding colonies of white pelicans. California gulls, Caspian terns and Western grebes, as well as thousands of Canada geese, and literally tens of thousands of wild ducks representing all species found in such regions of the Northwest.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the cause of bird protection has not yet sufficiently advanced in this country, but what eternal vigilance and the reasonable use of funds are necessary if we are not to suffer irreparable loss in our wild bird life. At any moment a valuable colony of birds is likely to be wiped out.

Mr. Wm. Finley, of Oregon, writes:

The proposal to drain Malheur Lake to make more agricultural land in southeastern Oregon has threatened during the past year to put an end to the most important breeding place for wild fowl in the United States. This matter will soon come before the State Land Board of Oregon. Mr. Pearson recently made an inspection of Malheur Lake Reservation and found it very questionable whether the alkali-soaked soil of the lake bed could ever be of any use for agricultural purposes; while, on the other hand, this extensive alkali marsh is of great value as a wild fowl nursery. Every effort will be made, therefore, to save Malheur Lake as a wild bird reservation.

=

How to Save Malheur.

It is highly important that the "most important breeding place for wild fowl in the United States should be saved. One sure way to save it would be to make it a public shooting ground where the shooting could be regulated. Sportsmen would not shoot any but the wild food birds and if a little extra work be done by skilled keepers it would be possible to permit a large number of sportsmen to have at least one or two days' good duck shooting without causing any diminution in the numbers of the fowl. Possibly the State might derive some revenue also from the sale of a lot of the wild food birds. Sportsmen can be found willing to shoot one hundred or more fowl in a day without charge for their services. They should be permitted to retain a dozen birds or so and the rest should be sent to market so that the people who are said to own the game may have a taste of their property. A few keepers at Malheur would ensure an

increase of the game every year so that a few hundred thousand birds might easily be served to the people.

=

Game Law Novelties.

In Farmers Bulletin No. 774, issued by T. S. Palmer, W. F. Bancroft and Frank L. Earnshaw, assistants, Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, several game laws are referred to. On page 3, we are told: "Among the novel acts of the year may be mentioned that of New Jersey—in an effort to prevent accidents in the field—prohibiting a person from going into the woods or fields with firearms when under the influence of any drug or intoxicating liquor; and that of New York making it unlawful to pursue flocks of ducks in fresh water in such a manner as to drive them away from the neighborhood."

These are fresh novelties, indeed, but no more remarkable than many old enactments, such as the law prohibiting the sailing on the bay on the Lord's day for the purpose of locating ducks for a future day, and many others. The money expended for game law novelties would feed the world with game if it could be used to encourage game breeding.

=

An Able Bulletin.

The bulletin 774, above referred to, is a painstaking document of sixty-four pages. It attempts to set forth a summary of the many game laws enacted during the year. Among the subjects discussed are, the new convention or treaty relating to migratory birds; the open seasons for game in the United States and Canada; the shipment of game; federal laws; state laws prohibiting export; the sale of game; sale in close season; sale in open season; sale prohibited all the year; disposition of game raised in captivity; bag limits; minimum age limits for hunting; licenses for hunting game and details of hunting licenses.

Any one who would give the time to a careful study of the numerous enact-

ments referred to in the bulletin would have no time to go shooting and the laws, no doubt, will be changed much before any one has time to find out what they are. The document will be valuable, however, for the future historian who will record the game law absurdities and the scarcity of game which always has followed their enactment.

A New Report on Bird Enemies.

The Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture has published a very interesting bulletin on "The Natural Enemies of Birds," by E. H. Forbush, State Ornithologist. In this book Mr. Forbush has compiled a great amount of valuable material and the conclusions drawn by him will serve as his professional advice to those interested in the welfare of birds. The pith of his message is that we should exercise the greatest care before condemning any creature as injurious. His demonstration of the complex economic relations in nature is extremely interesting to the nature lover. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained from the State Board of Agriculture, Room 136, State House. It is listed as "Economic Biology, Bulletin No. 3, The Natural Enemies of Birds."

How About the Ducks?

We invite our readers' attention to the pictures of mallards printed on the cover, and would like to have the opinions of some of the experts as to the quality of the birds. Are they true wild mallards or are they domesticated birds? Are these birds strong on the wing and suitable for sport? We have a record about these birds sent by a breeder but before printing it we shall be pleased to hear from the experts.

If the millions of dollars expended annually for game protection cannot produce any game for the people to eat, those interested in securing more laws should be willing to let the game breeders use a few of the farms which are now posted and a few of the marshes and ponds which soon may be drained, for profitable game production.

THE WORK OF LAST YEAR.

By the EDITOR.

Game breeding made rapid strides during the past year. It is now legal to breed all or certain species of game profitably in thirty-five states. Last year reports to our game census indicated that members of the Game Conservation Society owned nearly one hundred thousand game birds and many elk and deer.

Preliminary reports coming to the Society, this year, indicate that there are over a million game birds in the hands of breeders and that hundreds of thousands of eggs and birds were sold for propagation purposes during the year.

Many game birds have been marketed as food at excellent prices and the numerous inquiries which come to the Society indicate there will be several times as many breeders engaged in the new industry as there were last year. We predict that millions of eggs and birds will be sold during this year (1917).

Those who introduced the words, "in captivity" in some of the game breeders' laws which have been enacted now agree with us that it is wise to omit these words and to have the statutes read that game reared by industry on enclosed farms and preserves shall be deemed to be the property of those who produce it.

The importation of quail from Mexico was permitted beginning November 13, and reports coming to our Society indicate that many thousands of quail will be imported.

California decided to abandon the breeding of game on its state farm and to sell all of the stock birds to game breeders. This state soon will become one of the biggest game producing states in the Union.

A remarkable convention or treaty between the United States was secured by The American Game Protective Association, aided by the Audubon Association and by the prince of game law

enthusiasts, Doctor Hornaday, the Superintendent of the New York Zoo. Reports coming to the Society indicate that the last-named should be given much credit for this great convention, which long will be known as the game law *de luxe* of the civilized world. It is to be hoped that the migratory birds will be benefited as fully as the promoters of this measure believe they will be.

The migratory bird law which preceded the treaty was spread out into a wonderful lot of restrictions, creating fanciful crimes in various parts of the country which did not meet our approval, since no provision was made to keep them off of the game farms when they might be used to prevent the game breeders' industry. We have been assured, however, that these restrictions will not be used to prevent the increase of game as similar restrictions in the state laws were and we are well pleased to see any new laws intended to save the wild game given a trial, provided they do not affect the members of The Game Conservation Society.

A law was enacted opening the New York markets to game produced by industry in other states but the fanciful safeguards imposed at the suggestion of those who are always looking for imaginary difficulties, have made the law of little value and it is regarded as one more legal absurdity by the breeders in other states.

Many states now permit the profitable breeding and shooting of quail, grouse and all other game birds and the sportsmen in some states have plenty of desirable game.

At a game dinner in the West, grouse, quail, pheasants, partridges and other game were listed on an attractive menu sent to The Game Breeder and the excellent laws which permit the breeding, sale and eating of all species of game

(Continued on page 134.)



Coops in which Chinese Pheasant Eggs are Hatched. Penitentiary Watch Tower in the distance.

WASHINGTON'S GAME-BIRD AND HUMANE FARM.

BY CARL W. GROSS.

The State of Washington is pioneering and setting an example for the rest of the states, as well as the world, in the establishment of her state game farm. She is doing more than this. She is establishing a humane farm, because at the same time she is giving her convicts a chance to show their honor and teaching them a valuable profession. The experiment is proving profitable to Washington. Yes, sir; the idea of having the "honor" men at the state penitentiary at Walla Walla, help replenish the fields with game birds that were once abundant has turned out to be a grand one from every respect.

Since the State of Washington has in the past spent between \$30,000 and \$60,000 per year purchasing game birds from other states and foreign countries to help stock-up her vanishing supply, the State Game Warden, L. H. Darwin, asked the 1915 legislature to appropriate \$20,000 for a state game farm. But the legislature did not appropriate

the \$20,000, and since the European war stopped the importation of many species, a game farm became more of a necessity each day. One day J. H. Pedigo, chairman of the game commission of Walla Walla County, where the penitentiary is situated, suggested to the State Game Warden that he should endeavor to have the convicts raise the birds, as next to the penitentiary were many acres of available land. Since from a climatic standpoint the location seemed a supreme one, the idea struck Mr. Darwin as ideal. Immediately he planned his campaign. Since he could not get the money from the legislature, he asked the co-operation of the different county game wardens and almost every county responded with the understanding that the product of the farm would be distributed pro ratio to the contribution of each county.

Mr. Darwin then put up the proposition of having the prisoners raise the birds to Warden Drum of the peniten-



Chinese Pheasant Pens and Runways.

tiary, who was very enthusiastic over it. The ten acres adjoining and belonging to the penitentiary were then obtained for the use of a game farm. The warden was all the more enthusiastic when he recalled that the "honor" system in the prison had proved a success even among some men who were "sent-up" for life. The co-operation of Mr. Drum was also desired because he had demonstrated the fact that he was one of the best game raisers in the State of Washington.

Since the greatest cost in raising the game birds is labor, the labor would count for nothing if the prisoners could be interested. When the "honor men" were told of the plan they promised on their honor to put their whole heart and energy in the new business. Up to this time all they could learn was the making of jute and brick. This is mostly inside work and not work that is very remunerative. As they were willing to try this outside work and the money collected from the counties, State Fish and Game Commissioner Darwin, Warden Drum, Chairman Pedigo and Game

Warden Esses, of Grays Harbor, who has a great reputation as a bird raiser, went to Corvallis, Oregon, to study the game farm there. Mr. Esses spent several weeks in Oregon and then came back to design the yard. Coops, equipment and Chinese pheasant eggs were purchased and on June 1st Mr. Esses was placed in control of the farm.

The prisoners were placed on their honor. It required more honor in this particular instance because they would be in the woods a great deal of the time and although the watch-tower is not such a great distance from the farm, opportunities to sneak away are numerous. The men have shown that their honor was as good as any one else's, because not one has even attempted to escape. The work has been so fascinating to them that they have been willing to spend ten to twelve hours per day in this occupation. But the prisoners have not been the only faithful workers on this farm; credit must also be given to several Rhode Island hens who sat on the Chinese pheasant eggs twenty-three hours and forty minutes every day for



At the Washington State Game Farm

twenty-three days and then mothered the chicks. It takes two days longer for a Chinese pheasant to hatch out than a chicken. Only dark hens were selected to be foster mothers, because the chicks are dark and the acquaintance would be more lasting. While the Rhode Island Red is considered the best mother for this particular case, she will kill a chick if it is of a light color. Another thing—a Rhode Island Red, or any other hen won't do, is to feed her chicks maggots, because they are not used to doing this. The Chinese pheasant mother feeds her young ones maggots from her beak for she knows that this will sustain the life in the youngsters. The managers of the game farm also know this and as Mr. Darwin is Fish Commissioner as well as Game Commissioner, he was asked to ship hundreds of pounds of dead fish from the hatcheries for the purpose of raising maggots. These maggots were then placed before the chicklings, who became interested in these wiggling little mites and the chicks forgetting that they should be fed from the beak of their

mother, began to pick at them. Since their appetite was good and the maggots tasted good, it was not long before they learned to eat them of their own accord.

When first born the chicks are set aside with their foster mother in a narrow boxed pen where they can nestle up to her nice warm body. The next day, however, the closed trap is removed and they can creep into a larger pen and eat all the white clover they wish to. The hen is kept in a cage, which is so arranged that the young pheasants may return to her whenever they feel cold or lonesome. When nine days old they are given still more freedom and a few days later are allowed to have a runway of forty by eighty yards. Here they were kept for six weeks and then sent to their future homes, some place in Washington's great forest, where they are growing and replenishing the wanning bird supply. They are sent in a special shipping coop which holds sixteen baby chicks and the foster Rhode Island Red mother, who stays

faithful to them as long as they want to stay with her.

These Chinese pheasant game birds are scarce in Washington and very expensive when bought in other sections, for they cost between \$2.50 and \$3.00 apiece, besides the freight. They are very beautiful as well as luscious, and are considered the best eating and laying bird in the world. There is always a market for them and steamshipmen are willing to pay top prices for their eggs, as well as the pheasant, as they claim the eggs keep longer. Last year the demand was three times the supply. While only Chinese pheasants are being raised at the penitentiary, this year, Mr. Darwin expects to have other birds hatched out next year and within a short time will begin the propagation of the big game.

Some of the most experienced game-bird raisers did not believe the farm would be a success. After being told it was a success they figured that if 60 per cent. were hatched out that would be wonderful. The truth of the matter is that over 75 per cent. were hatched and next year the managers expect to hatch out 90 per cent. One of the doubters went miles to see if the farm was as successful as reported. Before leaving, he said: "This bird-game farm and its results are the best I have ever seen." This was said by Mr. I. D. Casey, an authority recognized by all. Since the labor costs nothing, the birds were produced at a cost of about \$1.00 apiece. Next year the cost will be brought down to 72½ cents, since about 300 birds will be retained for mothers and the cost of buying eggs will be excluded. When the cost of constructing new bird houses is excluded, as it should be, the cost will be only 28 cents per bird, as against \$2.50 or \$3.00 what the state has had to pay heretofore. Of course, as years go on the old buildings will gradually begin to wear, etc., including wear, tear, and repairs it is expected that the men in the penitentiary will produce the birds at 35 cents each. Thus, the State of Washington will not only be saving from \$2.15 to \$2.85 per

bird, without counting freight, but will also fill her forests with more birds than it has ever had, as far as man knows. The sportsmen are very enthusiastic over the proposition because they say they are required to pay \$1.00 for a county license, or \$5.00 for a state license and when so many birds are let loose they will be sure of getting some return from their hunting licenses. Commissioner Darwin has said that there is no reason why this state should not become America's "Summer State" since its climate is supreme and with the prospects of fine game to catch, tourists will naturally come. The 1900 birds raised this year will produce a great many more next year and as the game farm will be kept up each year by the convicts, unprecedented results are expected for future years.

The reason this "Game Farm" is also a "Humane Farm" is because it puts the convicts on a greater honor system than has ever been tried before and proves to them that society is willing to give them another chance, and in a way, trusts them. It also teaches them a trade, if one may call it such, with which they can earn a good living after being released, for the Chinese pheasants, as well as their eggs are always in great demand.

The Maine Meeting.

The announcement has been received that the annual meeting of the Maine Sportsman's Fish and Game Association will be held on Thursday, January 18, at the State House in Augusta and that William Lyman Underwood of Boston, the well-known lecturer and naturalist, will be the principal speaker. Mr. Underwood has for the past 20 years been capturing animals and insects with the camera, and has a splendid collection of lantern slides which will be used to illustrate his lecture. He is lecturer in the Department of Biology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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FISH PONDS ON FARMS.

By ROBERT S. JOHNSON, AND M. F. STAPLETON, U. S. Bureau of Fisheries.

The propagation of fish on farms in artificially constructed ponds or in natural ponds of limited area is perfectly feasible; and with proper management such ponds will afford a convenient and economical food supply that will justify the expense of their construction or preparation and maintenance.

It is the purpose of this report to point out briefly the essential features to be considered in the location of a site, the construction of the pond and its operation, and the care of the fish contained therein.

This information has reference exclusively to the rearing of the spiny-rayed or warm-water fishes, which are especially adapted to culture in ponds, and which can only be propagated through natural reproduction.

Federal and State Government have in the past decade done much to improve the conditions of rural life by the development of public resources, the advancement of social intercourse, the dissemination of agricultural knowledge, and demonstrations of a better domestic practice. Up to the present time, however, but little attention has been given to fish culture as an adjunct to farming.

VALUE OF FISH AS FOOD.

Mental and physical efficiency, in the last analysis, are dependent upon the character of the food supply, and fish may well constitute a needed ingredient which is usually missing from the farm dietary.

The requirement of variety in food is unquestioned, if indeterminate, and the palatability of fish to the average person, in conjunction with its value in protein content, makes it a pleasing and beneficial addition to the daily regimen.

The chemically complex substance known as protein is an essential constituent of food, the most important

tissues of the body, other than the skeleton, being principally composed of it. Most human beings derive their needed protein from the flesh of animals, and in practically all civilized communities the greater part of it is supplied by meat and poultry. In the United States the main dependence in the past has been on meat—beef, mutton, and pork—which, owing to the large areas available for grazing and the low price of corn, could be raised in quantities great in proportion to the population.

These conditions no longer prevail, and shortage of the meat supply, with resulting high prices, is now a general condition. As a substitute for meat, fish offers many advantages. Pound for pound it contains as much protein as meat, and in some cases more. It therefore affords the same class and grade of food material as beef, mutton and pork.

Unfortunately, those actively engaged in farm work rarely have the opportunity to fish in neighboring lakes and streams, and more distant excursions, involving several days' absence from home, are usually beyond consideration. The need is apparent, therefore, for a readily accessible supply of fresh fish that may be drawn upon when desired—a source as dependable as the smokehouse or the poultry yard.

UTILIZATION OF WASTE LANDS.

The Bureau aims especially to influence the utilization of the natural and favorable water areas existing on countless farms which at the present time are being put to no use, many of them constituting unsightly waste spaces that detract from the value of the land. The presence of springs, lakes, flowing wells, or adjacent streams are all leading incentives to a fishery project, and

suitable sites for the construction of ponds, especially if at present unremunerative, should make their use to such a purpose desirable to the thrifty husbandman after a full comprehension of their possibilities in a fish-cultural way.

Ponds intended primarily for the cultivation of fish may be conveniently located for the watering of stock, or the overflow therefrom may be utilized for the irrigation of land. In many sections of the United States artificial ponds on farms are an absolute necessity to serve one or both these latter purposes, and by a merely nominal expenditure such water areas may be advantageously utilized for the growing of fish without interfering in any way with the original uses for which they were intended.

At the outset the main object of the amateur farmer fish-culturist should be the production of a food supply for home consumption. There are no authentic published records as to the financial returns that may be expected from the pursuit of pond fish culture on a commercial basis. Many theories have been advanced on this point, but, as in other undertakings of importance, the efficiency necessary in order to profitably conduct such a business can only be gained by repeated efforts and actual experience. Furthermore, in order to arrive at an estimate of any value one would have to take into consideration such important factors as the topographical features of the site, the character and quantity of the water supply available, the extent of the enterprise, and the location of the plant with reference to market and transportation facilities.

Taking all these facts into consideration, one can readily see the futility of attempting to forecast in a general treatise the financial returns that may be expected from any given pond area devoted to commercial fish culture.

All this, however, detracts in no way from the argument favoring the construction of ponds with the view to providing a food supply for private use. The feasibility of pond fish culture on

this basis has been fully demonstrated, and ample quantities of fish for home use are today being propagated in established ponds on farms, proving the value of such an undertaking for that purpose alone.

After gaining the required experience and knowledge of the subject as a result of conducting work for several years on a limited scale, the farmer will be well qualified to judge as to the practicability of extending his operations, and can then, if he so chooses, increase his facilities with the view of raising fish for the market.

Frequent inquiries are received by the Bureau of Fisheries regarding the use of natural ponds, lakes and streams, for the raising of fish. With respect to such water areas it may be stated that if drainage is provided for, the pond bed cleared of debris, the site protected against the inflow of surface water—if, in short, complete control is effected, natural water areas will possess many advantages over artificial construction. There is objection, however, to any body of water not under complete control.

(To be continued.)

Mallard Nests in Trees.

Editor Game Breeder:

Three of my mallard ducks nested in willow trees this year—one in a crotch four or five feet from the ground, one about fifteen feet, in a hole, and the last in a hole in the trunk of a tree about twenty feet from the ground. Some day I will measure up the height of the holes and give you the story for the magazine.

G. F. MCKINNEY.

[We are inclined to believe that foxes or other ground vermin have driven the ducks in the trees. Tree-nesting mallards are certainly a novelty. We would suggest that you endeavor to trap the foxes or whatever vermin is about and see if the ducks will again become terrestrial nesters. The Oneida Community will be much interested in this tale and Mr. Newhouse, of that company, will be glad to advise what traps to use if you find that ground vermin is sending the ducks aloft. —Editor.]

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

PRAIRIE GROUSE AND SHARPTAILS.

By D. W. HUNTINGTON.

"The inevitable day will surely come that will bring the same fate to all our wild creatures, and the prairie chicken, like other natives of the wilderness, will remain only as a memory."—Daniel Girard Elliot.

The distinguished ornithologist, Elliot, ends his chapter on the prairie hen with the words above quoted. At the time he wrote the prairie grouse had become extinct in Kentucky, where Audubon described them as so plentiful they were regarded as pests on account of the damage done to the fruit trees. The birds were gone also from Ohio and some other states when Elliot wrote his books about the game-birds, and rapidly they were vanishing in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and throughout their range. We know why the birds vanished and I am quite sure it will be an easy matter to make them more plentiful than they ever were. No American game-birds, however, need the practical attention of game breeders more than the prairie grouse and the other grouse of the open country do. The sharp-tailed grouse of the northern plains and the big sage grouse of the western sage plains are as surely destined to "remain only as a memory," as Elliot says, or to become tremendously plentiful, as I am sure they will as soon as the western breeders realize how inexpensively and profitably they can be reared in a wild state on the farms where grain and grass are cultivated and on the vast plains where the artemesia or wild sage grows.

The heath-hen, another open country grouse was almost extinct before efforts were made to increase its numbers and it is now well known that this bird is increasing in numbers and soon it can be introduced and made plentiful in other localities, provided the ground be made safe and attractive and the birds be properly looked after.

The sage grouse has vanished from vast areas where it should be profitably plentiful for the very good reason that

it cannot stand the losses due to its numerous natural enemies and the serious additional check to its increase, due to much shooting.

All of the grouse of the open country are comparatively easy marks early in the season when they are most desirable for food. It is far easier to protect the woodland grouse by laws limiting the bag and shortening the season than it is to protect the grouse of the open country. It is far more important that we should look after the last named at once and take active steps to make them profitably plentiful. I say profitably advisedly since no one can be expected to do anything which will not pay.

Game laws and capable game officers are not enough to save the prairie grouse and sharp-tail grouse, because the cultivation of the lands they inhabit destroys entirely their natural foods during certain seasons of the year and also the cover which is essential to their existence. No protectively marked birds which rely on concealment to escape their natural enemies can survive when the covers are ploughed under on vast areas, leaving nothing but a bare surface of earth, often unbounded even by wire fences; no birds can survive a total loss of their foods during long periods when food is most needed.

I shall describe at length to the many foods of the grouse of the open country and also the character of the cover which was abundant not only during the nesting season but also in the winter, at which times concealing covers are most needed.

When I used to shoot large numbers of prairie grouse in Illinois and other states and as many sharp-tailed grouse

in the Dakotas and Montana, there was an abundance of food and an abundance of cover. In Kansas the prairie grass offered concealment and there were so many wild sunflowers that the state was named after them. There were also acres of wild roses, the red hips of which were easily obtained as winter food above the snow, and one of my favorite shooting grounds for sharp-tailed grouse in Montana has a stream flowing through it named the rosebud, after the abundant flowers.

This little valley, like many others, was a beautiful flower garden, with thousands of wild roses and sunflowers and many blooming berry plants, including wild currants, gooseberries and others. The last time I shot in Kansas the farms in many places were closely cultivated; not a wild sunflower or a wild rose could be seen for many miles and when the stubbles were ploughed under the grouse had neither cover nor food and were an easy prey to their natural enemies and human enemies also, who knew well the prairie grouse is one of the most delicious of our long list of game birds. I am inclined to agree with those who say that the prairie grouse is our best upland game bird for the table. It is not surprising that it vanished from whole counties at a time and that the ornithologists predicted its early extermination.

I have pointed out at other times that the introduction of cattle has been followed by the disappearance of partridges in the Old World and of our quail in America from the lands used for grazing purposes. The extinction of the masked Bob White, it has been said, was due to the abundance of cattle introduced on its ranges. It is not surprising that the grouse of the northern plains vanished as if by magic when the cattle became abundant on a good part of their range and the remaining land was for the most a vast sea of bare earth during the period following the ploughing under of the stubbles. I have seen the prairie falcons, one of the worst enemies of the grouse, so plentiful that there were many birds always in sight, perched

on the telegraph and telephone poles or soaring overhead. One can readily imagine that no shooting was necessary to cause the extermination of the grouse on such areas and that a little shooting only hastened the inevitable end.

I am authorized to offer \$15.00 a pair for a lot of prairie grouse and these birds undoubtedly can be sold for at least \$10 a pair in large lots. I believe the price will remain up until the birds become very abundant and that even then they can be sold at an excellent profit. The eggs of these birds can be sold readily at from \$6 to \$8 per dozen and probably for more in small lots. The grouse undoubtedly will persist in laying if the first eggs be lifted and sold and it should be an easy matter to make the birds very abundant and profitable by simply providing cover and food on part of the area used for grouse breeding. Narrow strips of cover between the fields and across the center of large fields are all that are needed, and the ground so utilized can be made to yield a small fortune to those who first get into the industry of breeding grouse. The laws in a number of good grouse states now permit and encourage such industry and I am quite sure it will not be long before the prairie grouse and the sharp-tailed grouse and their eggs will be offered for sale in the advertising pages of *The Game Breeder*. I can say for the Game Conservation Society, that it will guarantee splendid results from such publicity.

We have here an opportunity for money making which I believe is superior to the opportunity presented to cattle and sheep ranchers in the days when such industry was at its best. Wheat, corn and other grains can be grown profitably on a grouse ranch and the birds can be raised inexpensively, since they will find much of their food in the stubbles at certain seasons and when these are destroyed they will find abundant food and cover in the narrow strips provided especially for the grouse and which can be made even more attractive than the lands were when the grouse were tremendously abundant.

have records of places where thousands of grouse have been shot every season on the moors of Scotland since the birds have been properly looked after and it is well known that the grouse do not interfere with the sheep industry which was carried on when grouse protection was undertaken. Many moors now yield an annual rental from the grouse alone, which is larger in amount than the lands sold for before the grouse industry was begun.

In another paper I shall describe in detail the simple and inexpensive methods which should be used to make the grouse abundant and profitable on the western farms, listing all the foods of the grouse, many of which should be planted in places where grouse breeding is undertaken.

We have been asked about the difference between the common prairie grouse and the lesser prairie hen. The difference would seem to be similar to that between the common Bob White of the northern states and the smaller species, known as the Texan Bob White, which is abundant in the land where the lesser prairie hen occurs.

Elliot gives the range of the smaller grouse as "Western Texas, through Indian Territory to Kansas." He describes the lesser prairie hen as a smaller, pale-colored variety of the pinnated grouse and adds, it would not probably be regarded as in any way different from the pinnated grouse by one who

was not an ornithologist and trained to observe technical or slight distinctions between animals. It is somewhat different in coloring and appears smaller, though measurements seem to show that the size of the two birds is pretty nearly equal. In certain parts of Texas, such as the districts lying to the south and southeast of San Antonio, this race is very abundant, and is also found, but in more limited numbers, north of that city (1897). It is also common in the Indian Territory. Its most southern range in Texas appears to be just north of Fort Brown, near the coast. The eggs are somewhat smaller than those of the northern prairie chicken, and paler in color, being a creamy or buffy white, covered with very fine grayish or brownish dots; sometimes the shell is entirely unspotted. The habits and nesting of this race are practically not different from those of the common prairie grouse.

Atwater's Prairie Hen.

Elliot says this bird appears to be restricted to the coast line of Louisiana and Texas. It differs from the other species of the genus in having the tarsus feathered only on the upper two-thirds, and a suffusion of cinnamon rufous on the tufts of long feathers in the neck, which are almost square at their tips, forming almost a collar in front at base of neck. In size it is about the same as the Lesser Prairie Hen.

THE PRONG-HORNED ANTELOPE.

By HAROLD C. BRYANT.

The prong-horned antelope was once one of the commonest game mammals found in California. At the present time only a very few are left in the state. Most of these are to be found in four counties—Modoc, Lassen, Mono and western Fresno. Before gold was discovered in California they were exceedingly abundant in the San Joaquin and

Sacramento valleys and until 1880 were to be found in northern Los Angeles County and Riverside County.

The antelope has no near relatives in the United States. It is both goatlike and deerlike. It has hollow horns with boney cores and scent glands like the goat. In its coat of hair with undercoat of wool and its habit of shedding

its horns each year, it is like the deer. It is the only animal on the American continent which possesses two hoofs on each foot like a giraffe. The antelope stands about three feet high at the shoulder and an average buck weighs between 80 and 100 pounds. The color is a rich tan with large white spots. The eyes are very large for an animal of its size, but in spite of this the antelope does not seem to have extraordinary powers of sight.

The horns have but one short prong. Unlike deer, the antelope is never absolutely hornless, for the new horn is fairly well developed before the old one is shed. Old bucks usually shed their horns in October, but younger animals usually shed later on. A close examination of the material making up the horns will show that they are composed of agglutinated hairs—just a mass of hair cemented together.

During the late fall and winter antelope gather together in mixed herds, but in the spring they separate. The females usually go about singly until after the young are born, when they again unite in small groups. The young are born in May and June and twins are very common.

Antelope are very fleet and it is said that dogs are unable to overtake them. When frightened they give a sort of "snort." The only other sound which these animals are known to emit is a sort of "grunting bleat" used by the mothers in calling their young.

The prong-horned antelope is noted for its curiosity. In the early days this habit was made use of by hunters, who would bring the animals up within gunshot by waving a coat or red handkerchief on the end of a stick, or by lying down on their backs and kicking their legs in the air. For many years past, however, these animals have profited by experience and are not so easily taken in by this ruse.

Once a highly prized game mammal, the prong-horned antelope is now so reduced in numbers that it has to be absolutely protected. A slight increase in numbers has been reported from a few

of the localities where they are still found. But even with the total protection afforded them at the present time, doubt can be expressed as to the possibility of their long persisting as a member of our fauna. In the early history of San Francisco there may be found statements as to the cheapness of antelope meat to be found on the market. It was doubtless this market demand which first caused a great reduction in the numbers of antelope. If the remnant of them left in our state could be placed in game refuges where they could have plenty of food and good care there is a possibility that they would increase. The State of Virginia has conclusively shown us what can be done by carefully protecting deer. Certainly every person in the State of California would welcome the increase of this strange and interesting deerlike animal, the prong-horned antelope.

New Members.

Our invitation to members of The Game Conservation Society to help in doubling the membership has met with a hearty response from all over the country. We hope all of our readers will take a hand in this work. It should be easy for most of them to secure new subscribers by using the cards which are sent to all. Here are a few sample replies:

=
Chicago.

I received the two cards and am sending you \$5; one for my own subscription.

=
Massachusetts.

I received two cards and am sending you three new subscribers.

=
Colorado.

Please send the magazine to the two persons named on the inclosed cards and send me some more cards. It is a pleasure for me to get new subscribers.

=
Michigan.

I used the two cards sent, promptly. Please send me some more.

BOB-WHITE IN THE WEST.

By JOHN B. THOMPSON.

[This interesting article about the bob-white, from Bird-Lore, is a valuable addition to the stories about the introduction of bob-white in Montana by Hon. M. D. Baldwin, Commissioner of Montana, and the bob-white in Oregon, by Wm. F. Finley, which were published in The Game Breeder.—Editor.]

In introducing Bob White, *Colinus virginianus*, into the western states, little thought to the natural environments of this most desirable of game birds has been given. Those who have exhibited much devotion to bird-life are actuated by commendable motives, when they endeavor to give to western fields the little brown birds that have proven such industrious partners to the farmers in the South in their efforts to combat insect pests. The more a community has to offer in the way of a plentitude of bird-life, the more it can boast of its freedom from harmful creatures, and the esthetic side, too, gains much.

Probably, if conditions where Bob Whites thrive were taken into consideration, greater success would follow their introduction into new places. The effects of capture, long travel, confinement, and the many other nervous little jars during their change from place, right at the start militate against their welfare. The better side only of the traffic in game birds we hear of; the loss of bird-life in this way is seldom mentioned. Even a change of water may have some appreciable influence on quails. But how, when and where they are liberated after their arrival are the most important subjects to be thought of. On these depend the burden of their future existence and perpetuation of their kind.

Sportsmen have been the ones who have done most for the propagation of Bob Whites in new countries. In truth, in this the inspiration for later sport with gun and dog has been the incentive, but yet field trial clubs in many places have been content to have these birds

solely to observe the work of their setters and pointers on them. Others start to raise quails because they wish them on their estates, and they love them as they love all bird-life, and do all in their power to protect them.

The average place where quails have been planted in the West has been a ranch that has been kept scrupulously clean of foul weed growths. It seems that only the richer class and those who have succeeded in their farming attempts aspire to have Bob Whites established in their community. Cleanliness and success in farming or fruit culture are inseparable. And just for this reason failures have resulted from attempts to establish Bob Whites in the West. The habitat in the South where the birds are most plentiful needs only to be cited to confirm this. The poorly cultivated or abandoned farm bearing in abundance only ragweed, lespedeza, sumach, rank growths of beggar lice and wild peas, is the home where they multiply the most. And there, also, as a guard against predatory creatures of the air, are the network of dewberry vines on the ground and the thickets of briars. Farms in the West that have been stocked with quails in most cases afford conditions directly the contrary. The natural winter feeds are lacking, and the shelters they have always frequented are not there.

It is reasonable to anticipate better results from the introduction of Bob Whites, if on every eighty acres of land one-half of an acre or even a smaller plot is given to the birds, and in it are planted weeds and cover vines as nearly similar as would grow to those in

their own home. Immediately in this way they would reconcile themselves to their new quarters, having faith from the start in being able to ward off the attacks of predatory creatures, and being thoroughly assured of a supply of feeds that they really know and like. Whenever bird clubs accept this method of propagating Bob Whites, just so soon will their fields ring with the plaintive, melodious call of the quails.

Bird-lovers have shown an inclination to bring their pets to the very thoroughfares of the cities. Some city quarters are homes for Ring-necks and other pheasants, but the latest fad, and it evidences a chance of success, is to have Bob Whites roam on the city lawn. From this, one must not at once believe that the quails are cooped in a small yard, or that their liberties are in any way restricted, but they have the run of lawns growing large plants and shrubbery. In the fashionable dwelling-district of a city boasting a population of seven hundred thousand people, quails are seen feeding in the middle of the streets. The mansion where their owner resides, together with lawns and flower gardens, occupy a city block. Certainly these royal birds add a touch of beauty and a faint atmosphere of the country to the surroundings. The owner's familiarity with game in a wild state has induced him to give the Bob whites a small plot to themselves. It is the exact reproduction of an abandoned hill farm, to the most insignificant plant.

The most interesting part in this attempt at quail culture in a city is the assistance afforded by the small boys in keeping the locality free from prowling cats. This, too, has tempted other bird-life there.

Where the dwellers of the city interest themselves in game birds to the degree that they will sacrifice something for their welfare, it is easy to conceive how promptly they can be instilled with a love for all wild birds. No matter to what extremities it will lead them when it develops into a passion, they will always feel well repaid for their devotion

to these plucky little brown birds, when the turmoil of city life is suddenly stilled by the soft vibrant note of the calling quails.

The Remington Arms Company.

The Remington Arms Company in the last two years has had such a large increase in business and has had to meet much unprecedented conditions that there have necessarily been changes in the organization and additional men have had to be brought in to meet the new demands.

A Managing Committee has recently been appointed consisting of Mr. Samuel F. Pryor, Mr. G. M.-P. Murphy, Mr. James H. Perkins and Mr. W. E. S. Griswold. Mr. Pryor, who has been President of the Company, has been elected Chairman of the Managing Committee and Mr. Henry S. Kimball, formerly President of the American Zinc, Lead & Smelting Company, has been elected President of the company. Mr. C. S. Hawley, formerly President of the Laconia Car Company, has become associated with the company in the capacity of Treasurer. With these additional men and with the Managing Committee working in thorough co-operation with the executive offices, the problem of handling the great volume of business has been successfully met.

With these increases in the executive organization and with certain adjustments in existing contracts, it is now considered that the affairs of the company are in a very satisfactory condition.

Foxes Killed the Turkeys.

Foxes killed all my young turkeys. So I have none to sell.

J. D. McCLINTIE.

Belleville, Pa.

[Write to the Oneida Community, Ltd., Oneida, New York, and ask them to send their booklet telling how to trap the foxes. We trapped a lot of foxes at a game preserve in which we are interested.—Editor.]

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

Movements of Keepers.

Thomas Pritlore writes that he has accepted the position as keeper on the G. L. Harrison preserve. "I will certainly do my best," he adds, "to push The Game Breeder."

The important thing to remember is to deal with those who support the work of the Society by advertising in its publication.

J. K. McPhail is located on the Wood preserve in Connecticut and is endeavoring to procure the stock birds for next season.

G. Thacker has gone to the Palmetto preserve as head keeper.

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A Good Motto.

Game Conservation Society:

Although I have no time to read The Game Breeder, I was caught by your good motto, "More Game and Fewer Game Laws," and inclose \$1.

I raise pheasants and consider it a nuisance not to be able to do so without a license. Several of my friends who raised pheasants abandoned it because of being hounded by game wardens.

R. M. P.

Wayside Preserve.

[We hope it will not be long before all breeders have more freedom. We hope to see the licenses and other restrictions applied only to the dealers in dead game, as they are in most civilized countries.—Editor.]

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Quail Prizes.

MISS MARY RAHLMAN.

Dear Miss Rahlman.—At the annual meeting of the board of directors a few prizes were voted to active workers in the "more game" field. It gives us pleasure to inform you that the principal live quail prize was awarded to you and the quail have been ordered shipped, with the compliments of the Society. You will be interested to learn that the award was made on account of the interesting matter you reported about your difficulty in keeping quail in your possession for propagation after you had hatched the birds from eggs taken

from irrigated fields, when the nests were destroyed by water, and also on account of the excellent article about quail breeding which you contributed to the publication of the Society, The Game Breeder. We had in mind also a foolish provision of the California laws which requires breeders to procure their stock birds from without the state.

A number of members of the Society now make at least five thousand dollars a year breeding game and game fish and we hope and believe you soon will do as well. You certainly are performing a great public service. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Yours for More Game.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY,
John C. Huntington, Secretary.

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N. R. HINDE.

Dear Mr. Hinde.—It gives us pleasure to notify you that you have been awarded the second prize of live quail given by The Game Conservation Society, and the birds have been ordered shipped. This award was made because we are informed that the Iowa laws require breeders to procure their stock from without the state and on account of the excellent article on Mallard Breeding in Iowa, which you contributed to The Game Breeder, the publication of the Society.

You are doing a great public service and we hope and believe you will make a great deal of money.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours for More Game,

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY,
John C. Huntington, Secretary.
The Water Fowl Club.

The Water Fowl Club meeting will take place at the New York Show December 30. Mr. Wm. Dummer writes: "I understand there is to be a large display of mallards and other wild ducks at the New York Show, Madison Square Garden."



A Successful Big Pen—Game Breeders' Association.

Pens for Pheasants.

A number of readers have expressed an interest in the subject of large pens vs. small pens for pheasants.

There can be no doubt that the best game keepers in America are in favor of large pens for the propagation of pheasants for sport. A few years ago, numerous small pens were used on club preserves, but the large pen is less expensive and in many places the small pens have been abandoned.

When high priced aviary species are propagated there can be no doubt that small pens may be used to advantage. Excellent and accurate records can be made, and there is, of course, no danger of the loss of a valuable cock by fighting when only one cock is penned with a number of hens. But the losses due to fighting in large pens where hundreds of pheasants are confined during the breeding season have been found to be very small where the pens are properly constructed with suitable cross covers and the loss of a bird or two of the less expensive birds used on shooting preserves is inconsiderable when compared with the cost of constructing many small pens.

The records of eggs gathered from large pens are excellent and the birds certainly do well in the large inclosures. The little fighting which goes on seems to be beneficial to the birds and where there are ample opportunities for the defeated cocks to escape and associate with hens on the opposite sides of the brush covers in the pens, most of the cocks will "live to fight another day."

It has been impossible to answer all of the letters coming to *The Game Breeder* on this subject. We have asked some of the best game keepers in America to write their opinions on this subject of pens and we hope soon to print some interesting letters from the best authorities with some pictures and diagrams of the large pens used on some of the best American preserves.

More About Pheasant Pens.

The following letter was written by one of our members to another and although it was marked not for publication we feel that we know the writer well enough to print the letter without using his name, since it will be of great interest to our readers and undoubtedly will result in some interesting letters

from capable breeders who favor the big pens.

Our business is editing, and as we understand the employment, it consists primarily in selecting that which we believe the readers of the publication want and when there are two sides to a question we believe they want both.

Our own opinion is often frankly given for what it is worth and often we are in a position to form opinions based on the consensus of opinion of those we believe know the most about a given subject. We are aware that one danger of editors is that they may become too opinionated to present matters fairly. When they reach this stage they are no longer good editors. Our experience with the big pen has been highly satisfactory. We have never tried the small ones. We have seen thousands of pheasants which came from the eggs laid in the big pen in charge of Adam Scott, when he was at Allamuchy, and we never saw a finer lot of birds. We have seen many thousands of pheasants reared from eggs laid in the big pens at many club and individual preserves. The fact that small pens have been abandoned by capable keepers in favor of the big pen has led us to believe that the big pen

was the best. It certainly is far more interesting. An occasional cock fight over the possession of a hen appeals to us and we formed the opinion that a little fighting was good exercise for the birds.

As to the comparative expense, this is a matter of figures, and we hope to give these figures as they will come to us from those who have erected both kinds of pens.

It is fair to say that on many of the best commercial game farms in England small pens are still used. We hope many practical breeders will contribute their opinions in letters to *The Game Breeder* and we shall be glad to publish photographs and drawings or plans and specifications with the cost of construction.

One thing we are sure about is that we wish the readers of *The Game Breeder* to have the best that can be obtained about any subject, and we believe that our duty lies in the direction of gathering and selecting and serving the opinions of others, rather than the giving of personal advice.

The following is the letter referred to and is the opinion of a successful breeder:

"I note an inquiry in *The Game*



Small Pens—Blooming Grove Club.

Breeder, also the response of my good friend Mr. Huntington. I still stick to what I said in my former letter to you: build small pens 10 x 10 or 10 x 12 that will hold five birds or six each. Suppose you have 200 birds and build an aviary as suggested in Game Breeder, this aviary would have to be 40 feet wide and at least 150 to 200 feet long. The posts would have to be of very heavy material to support the beams which would have to be at least 6 x 10 or 8 x 12, so as to hold up such a wide roof of wire when heavy snows and sleets come, the posts that supported this would have to be braced and in the inside of pen also have supporting posts for these beams before you attempt to build you submit to some contractor and I bet it will cost \$1,000 or more. What ruins this pheasant game is the overhead charges. Now take my plan, you could build for 200 birds, 40 of these movable pens, they would cost not exceeding \$5 each, never have to spade ground when it becomes foul, simply move pen or aviary. Again, if any bird or pen should become infected merely move this pen away from the others. Again, it obviates green feeding, which is necessary. Move the pen every week on fresh sod and they have their green. It is never necessary to go in an aviary except save for two months in the year, and that during laying season. Advantages may be summarized as follows:

"First. Vastly cheaper.

"Second. More sanitary.

"Third. Green feed without having to spade up the aviary or grow in a garden to furnish for feed.

Suppose your large aviary should become foul, what are you going to do?

"Suppose roup or some other disease which does happen, breaks out, what would you do?"

"Irrespective of what any one else says, and I have no quarrel with them, each pheasant should have at least 20 sq. ft., at the least. I know you will say this talk of 1½ by 1½ sufficient, but nothing doing for me. Of course where you have an expert like Duncan Dunn

of New Jersey State Game Farm, with plenty of assistants and who can detect disease in its incipency, these stationary pens may do, but to the amateur I say, lookout."

The Protection of Nests.

The Rev. H. A. Macpherson, one of the ablest English writers on the natural history of English game birds, says: "Some sportsmen think it unlucky to find a partridge's nest. Certainly it is best that the majority of nests should escape attention altogether. The chances of the young birds chipping the eggshells successfully is materially increased by their complete seclusion. The misfortunes which attend the discovery of a nest of eggs are not difficult to understand. If symptoms of human interference exist, as shown in broken twigs and trampled herbage, the curiosity of stoats and other ground vermin is arrested. Even a field mouse is curious to know why any little change has occurred in his preserves; his peering eyes often discover a dicky bird's nest that we had left, we had fancied in perfect security. The same principle applies to the nests of game birds, and all the more forcibly on account of their being constantly placed on the ground. If a sad mishap has befallen a clutch of eggs, and some of the number have come to grief, the misfortune can best be remedied by such eggs as happen to have escaped destruction being placed under the charge of a domestic fowl. When the little fellows emerge into the world they soon learn to take care of themselves, but the pupae of ants are required for their successful rearing.

Capt. Aymer Maxwell, another English authority on partridges, favors the locating and protection of every partridge nest on a preserve.

We believe that where very little protection can be given to the nests that they should not be located or visited, but in places where keepers are employed and where vermin can be controlled it is desirable for the keepers to know where the nests are and to see that no

harm comes to the nesting birds or their eggs.

Ground enemies of game can be prevented from taking the birds and eggs by placing traps in likely approaches to the nests and old traps which have been handled and sprung may be placed near the nests, and these will tend to keep the enemies away. When vermin is closely controlled by trapping and shooting the nests may be safely visited by keepers to see that they are safe.

More Buffalo.

In a note from Horne's Zoological Arena we are told:

We have on hand at our headquarters here twenty (20) pure bred Buffalo Bulls from two (2) years to six (6) years of age. These animals are the finest in America and we are going to sell them to make room for other stock; will sell at \$150 each F. O. B., Independence, Missouri, for yearlings; \$175 for 2-year-olds; \$225 each for 3, 4, 5 and 6-year-old animals. Yes, we have cows to spare, too.

[We hope we can have some bison for the annual game dinner of the Game Conservation Society next year and be able to stimulate the bison breeding industry. The "Where are the buffalo?" remarks of the young lawyers, seeking more restrictive laws to prevent quail shooting soon will be a thing of the past.—Editor.]

It Pays to Advertise.

By PETER P. CARNEY.

There was a time—and it wasn't so many years ago—that some of our men of affairs considered advertising a means for the getting rid of superfluous cash.

But not now.

Advertising—the right kind—is essential in every business. One cannot hope to be successful these days without it.

Advertising can be applied to trap-shooting clubs as well as to business. Some gun clubs already know the benefits to be derived from advertising. I will tell you about them so that your club may take heed.

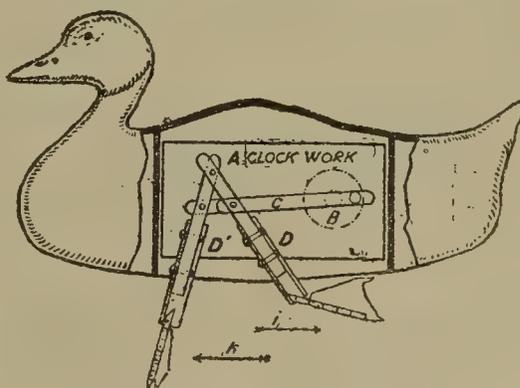
[The game shooting clubs and the preserve owners are beginning to learn that it pays to advertise eggs and game. Soon we expect to

have advertisements offering thousands of dead birds for hotel and home consumption.—Editor.]

Decoy Duck That Paddles Like a Live One.

One of the most ingenious inventions exhibited at the Concourse Lepine in Paris this fall is a decoy duck which swims automatically by paddling with its feet precisely as does a live duck. The feet are really a pair of feathering oars governed by a motor. The motor is clockwork, moving a disk, B, which, through the connecting rod C, communicates a forward and backward motion to the leg, D, which is capable of motion through an angle of 180 degrees. The leg D1 is moved similarly by a crank on the other side.

The foot is made of two approximately triangular leaves hinged to a ver-



Mechanism that makes the duck paddle.

tical shaft which is articulated upon a horizontal axis at the base of the leg D. Thus the shaft carrying the feet can fold under the body of the duck, its movement being checked by the head of the shaft coming in contact with the inner edge of the tube D.

The feet moving in the direction of the arrow i meet the resistance of the water, and this is translated into the forward motion of the bird. In the opposite motion, the leaves or feet turn freely on their hinges; the pressure of the water makes them close, so that they return forward to the useful position without resistance. One leg is moving forward while the other is moving backward; thus the progression is steady like that of a duck.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1917.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1 25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,
F. R. PEIXOTTO, Treasurer,
J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary.
Telephone, Beekman 3685.

See that the laws are amended so that the breeders can secure stock birds and in two years America will be the biggest game producing country in the world.

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The Evening World, N. Y., says that the criterion of a competence in America is not evidenced by the ownership of an automobile, but by the having of eggs for breakfast.

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It will not be long before an abundance of cheap game in our markets reduces not only the price of eggs for breakfast, but the price of meat for dinner.

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The fact that common sense laws have resulted in a big production of wild ducks, pheasants and deer indicates that the laws should be amended in the states which limit the production of these foods so as to encourage the profitable production of our indigenous game, the quail, grouse, teal and other birds which most need the breeder's attention.

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The Game Conservation Society represents a big industry of vast economic importance and it is pleasing to observe that the last state game officers rapidly are becoming heartily in favor of the more game movement.

THE NEW YORK MARKET.

Game breeders in the West and South have complained about the difficulty of sending the wild ducks, which they have bred in large numbers to the New York market. When a large number of ducks are shot in a day the guests of the preserve owner take a few home but many are left to be sold. The birds do not sell well in rural markets but there is a big demand for them in New York. When the birds are shipped by a reputable breeder who is willing to notify the New York game officers in advance of the shipment it would seem that the birds might be safely sold in the best market. If it is deemed necessary to put tags on them these might well be attached after their arrival in New York by an officer who easily could tag them after evidence of their origin was presented.

In England where game is abundant and cheap, the dealers are licensed and held to a strict accountability. Comparatively little poached or stolen game is sold and the dealer who violates the laws loses his license and the right to sell game.

We are quite sure this system will work well if it be given a trial in New York. There are very few dealers who would be willing to take the chance of losing the right to sell game and it should be an easy matter to inspect them and to see that only game legally shipped be sold.

It would be far better that some of the wild game be sold illegally than that the breeding industry should be destroyed. The loss of a few wild birds would simply indicate that the people had a taste of the game they are said to own and such losses should not occur often, if at all, if the fines be large and the offender be put out of business.

There can be no doubt that the market will be fully supplied by breeders, provided they be given every encouragement and many innocent persons should not be made to suffer on account of the fear that one or more illegal sales may be made. Only one case has occurred in several years which required

the imposition of a large fine, and we are quite sure there will be few such cases if proper restrictions be applied to the dealers.

Farmers and game breeders throughout the country are becoming aware that New York is preventing and discouraging a food producing industry and we regard it as very bad politics to excite in the people of other states a prejudice against New York which seems to be on the increase everywhere.

The people of New York should not be denied the right to have desirable foods (which are offered to them in abundance by producers in other states) simply on account of difficulties which are largely imaginary and which are entertained by a small coterie who put in their time seeking restrictive legislation which is unknown in countries where game is kept plentiful and cheap as it easily can be kept in America.

The laws should be promptly amended so as to encourage the food producers in other states to send their food to New York.

We will lend a hand, as all good breeders will, to see that no illegal game comes to the market, and if any should come that the offender be put out of business.

GROUSE AND QUAIL.

Every one who reads *The Game Breeder* is aware that the pheasants and the mallards rapidly have increased in numbers and there is no danger of the extermination of these birds. They are becoming common in some of the markets. Members of our Conservation Society own at least a million more pheasants and ducks than they did a year ago, and the increasing number of advertisements in *The Game Breeder* indicate the rapid growth of pheasant and mallard breeding. There are many thousands of black ducks, also, in the hands of breeders and these birds and their eggs easily can be procured from our readers.

The prairie grouse and the more northern species, the sharp-tailed grouse

are the best American upland game birds for the table and they should afford splendid sport in places where good bags could be made a few years ago. They are more in danger of extinction than any American game birds, not excluding the wood duck and the wood duck which have been described as vanishing birds. They can be made tremendously plentiful and very profitable, far more so than the pheasants and the wild ducks are.

The Bob White quail already is abundant on many preserves where thousands of quail are shot every season, but the demand for live quail for propagation and of dead birds for the table far exceeds the supply and we would urge our readers, especially those who own or can rent large areas to give their attention to the breeding of quail and grouse for sport and for profit.

Many quail have been imported from Mexico, but the demand exceeds the supply.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Faith With Works.

Editor *The Game Breeder*:

I regret much that I can not possibly get away to attend the annual meeting of *The Game Conservation Society* and the game dinner. I am sending you a check as my donation to the dinner.

W. J. MACKENSEN.

Yardley, Pa.

Editor *The Game Breeder*:

I have your favor of the 23rd instance and beg to advise that I will take the matter up at an early time along the lines suggested.

As regards the dealers in game, I believe that the mercantile licenses can be made to cover whatever is deemed necessary, and this should be without regard to measures provided for the protection of game in the wild state. After properly defining what game in the wild state is, I am certain there will be little difficulty in satisfying all parties, and I for one am perfectly willing to term all game animals, (that are alive,) not

under the supervision and control of the individual, as game in the wild state. But, mind you this is not to apply to game dead or alive "in possession," except this possession is beyond the limits of the territory where game is under supervision and control, which would clearly be expressed in the words "on farms or enclosed lands, and in protected fields."

It is my purpose to write the Commissioners of this state for the purpose of procuring such a law.

Yours truly,
S. V. REEVES,
Per K.

Editor The Game Breeder:

Referring to your note on page 7 in your October number, permit me to say that it was not the blue shark which bit anybody. The blue shark has never been known to bite man. The only shark known certainly to bite is the great white shark of the tropics which comes north occasionally in the Gulf Stream, one of which undoubtedly the criminal, was taken in New York Bay last summer. I obtained one some forty years ago at Soquel, California. It was thirty feet long and had a whole young hundred-pound sealion in its stomach.

Very truly yours,
DAVID STARR JORDAN.
Stanford University, Cal.

"Some" Testimonial.

The Game Breeder, New York:

I sent you an advertisement for one insertion in The Game Breeder. It appeared all right but when it appeared a second time I was surprised, although I received a letter stating that it was left in by mistake and that the money I sent to pay the bill would be returned. I did not reply to this letter because the ad sold all my birds and I felt I had received my money's worth.

Since I sold all my pheasants answers to the advertisement from all quarters have kept coming. I am just being swamped with inquiries from everywhere including Hawaii, Sandwich Is-

lands. Please notify your readers that I have no more birds to sell and will have no pheasants or eggs to sell next spring. I am now breeding quail exclusively, but will sell no eggs next spring since I am going to hatch all the eggs myself.

Be sure and let me know when my subscription to The Game Breeder expires. I do not want to miss a number.

S. J. MUSTOE.
Santa Clara, California.

Editor Game Breeder:

I am very much interested in article "Pheasants' Pens" on page 86, December issue. Can I get a plan of this large pen or can you refer me to one who has?

Yours very truly,
GEO. C. GOODFELLOW.

Montreal.

(We will publish a plan and photograph of a large pen.—Editor.)

A Dinner Donation.

The Game Conservation Society.
Gentlemen:

Since Wallace and I can not attend the game dinner I think the least we should do is to pay a fine, and I am inclosing check for \$10. You can use it for any purpose you see fit for the benefit of The Game Conservation Society. I think we all are indebted to the editor of The Game Breeder for having applied his time and money to the "More Game" movement for years. Perseverance generally receives its rewards sooner or later, and I am just as positive now as I always have been, that he will receive his just reward sooner or later.

S. EVANS.
The Wallace Evans Game Farm, St.
Charles, Illinois.

Now is the time to advertise eggs. Those who get their advertisements in early will secure the best results.

Now is a good time for the shooting clubs to write to the breeders and make contracts for late summer and early fall delivery of birds for shooting purposes.



**REMINGTON
UMC**

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

.22 Cal. REPEATING and AUTOLOADING RIFLES

IN the .22 caliber as in the high power arms, your shrewd sportsman selects his rifle and cartridges for results.

And when you start to be critical, there's nowhere to stop short of Remington UMC.

Made in Single Shot models—in Slide Action models, with the famous Remington UMC solid breech—and now, the Autoloading model that **successfully handles 16 Remington Autoloading rim-fire cartridges without reloading.**

For real .22 sport, get your rifle and cartridges from the dealer who displays the **Red Ball Mark of Remington UMC.**

The Remington Arms Union Metallic Cartridge Co.
Woolworth Building, New York City

(Continued from page 112.)

which have been enacted in many states might well be copied in New York.

The annual game dinner of The Game Conservation Society promises to be a great success, as it was last year.

A big mail indicates a growing interest in game breeding and it seems likely that every state in the Union will have a sensible law encouraging the industry within the year.

Sportsmen throughout the country now realize the impossibility of good shooting as a result of protecting game by laws restricting the season and the bag. Repeatedly they have learned that any shooting by many guns is disastrous in places where the game is not properly looked after and where numerous cats and dogs are added to the natural enemies.

The nation-wide advertising campaign of The Hercules Powder Company has produced results which must be gratifying to their advertising department. All prejudice against game breeding seems to have disappeared.

Incubators For Game Eggs.

A few years ago many game breeders did not favor the use of incubators for hatching game eggs. Recent experiments, however, have resulted successfully and the incubator rapidly is coming into general use on game farms and preserves where many thousands of game birds are reared annually.

The writer recently saw a large room full of big incubators on a game farm and the head keeper said he could not possibly do without them.

Another game keeper who called at the office of The Game Breeder recently said that he had been very successful in hatching wild duck and pheasant eggs and in rearing the young birds.

Incubators have been found very useful in England as a means of saving partridge eggs taken from nests which have been deserted and many keepers now use the incubator to hatch eggs when sufficient hens can not be procured.

We shall publish during the year many practical stories about the hatching of eggs in incubators, giving in detail the methods used by successful breeders. We contemplate the offering of several prizes for the best short stories about the use of incubators and we will announce these prizes in an early number.

Mallards in the Back Yard.

Editor Game Breeder:

At the present time I only have a small flock of eight mallards which are living in perfect content in a small city back yard. Although very wild when I first got them they are now becoming quite tame and come running to the door for something to eat every time it is opened.

I made a small shallow pond, not over six feet in diameter and a foot deep, in which they besported themselves until it froze over. I feed them but twice a day, giving them a little lettuce and spinach together with a mixture of cracked corn, wheat, oats and barley.

This is my first experience with wild ducks and I was quite surprised at the ease with which they are taken care of. Of course, I have not undertaken as yet the rearing of any young, but expect to do so this coming season and do not anticipate any great difficulty. If I am successful in breeding mallards in my rather limited quarters it is my intention to experiment with other more difficult species and thereby gain some practical experience before attempting it as a business, which I contemplate doing some time in the future.

This summer I will try and send you some photographs of the young broods and inform you from time to time what success I am having.

Wishing you the greatest success in your commendable work, I remain,

Yours for More Game,

N. R. HOFFMAN.

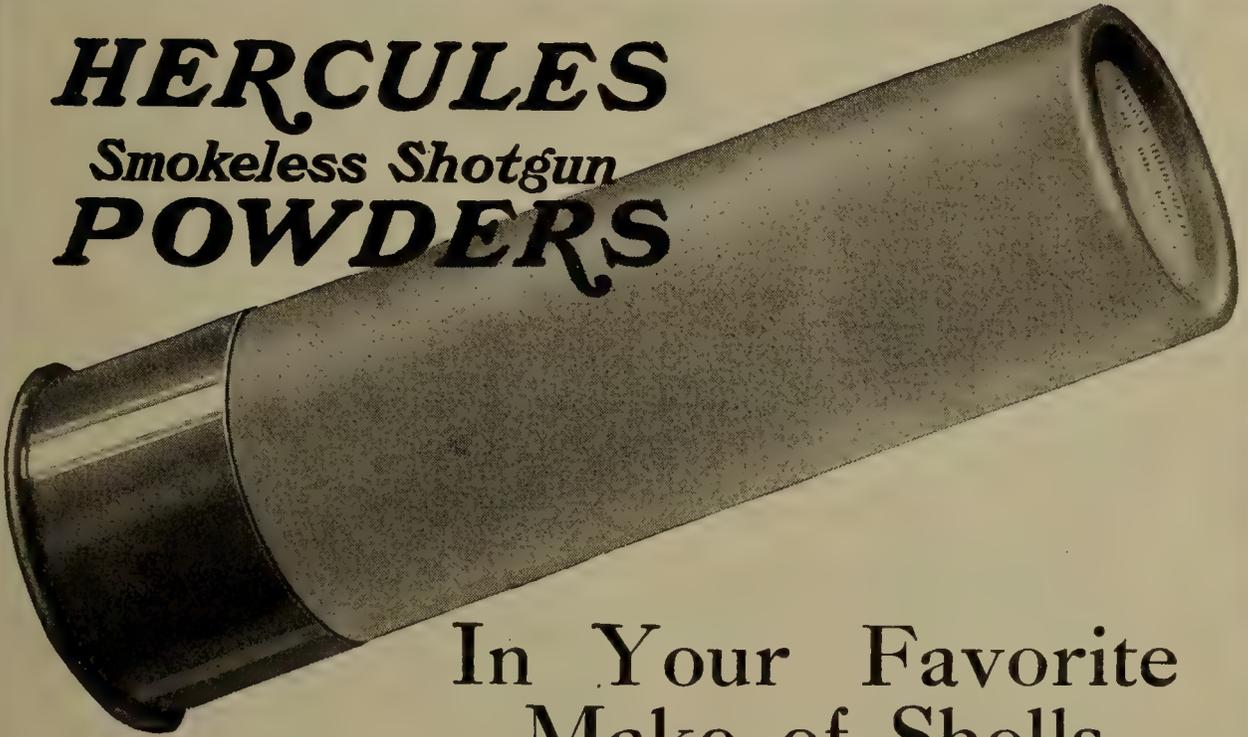
Minnesota.

Now is a good time to advertise young pheasants and ducks for late summer and fall delivery.

HERCULES

Smokeless Shotgun

POWDERS



In Your Favorite Make of Shells

Infallible and "E. C." can be obtained in all of the following makes of shotgun shells.

PETERS
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150 Nassau Street

New York City

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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATED PHEASANT BREEDERS. Pheasants, Quail, Mallard price list. **FRED D. HOYT, Hayward, Cal.**

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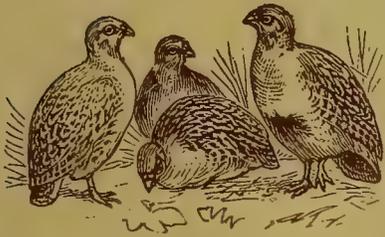
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X.

FEBRUARY, 1917

No. 5

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST
GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

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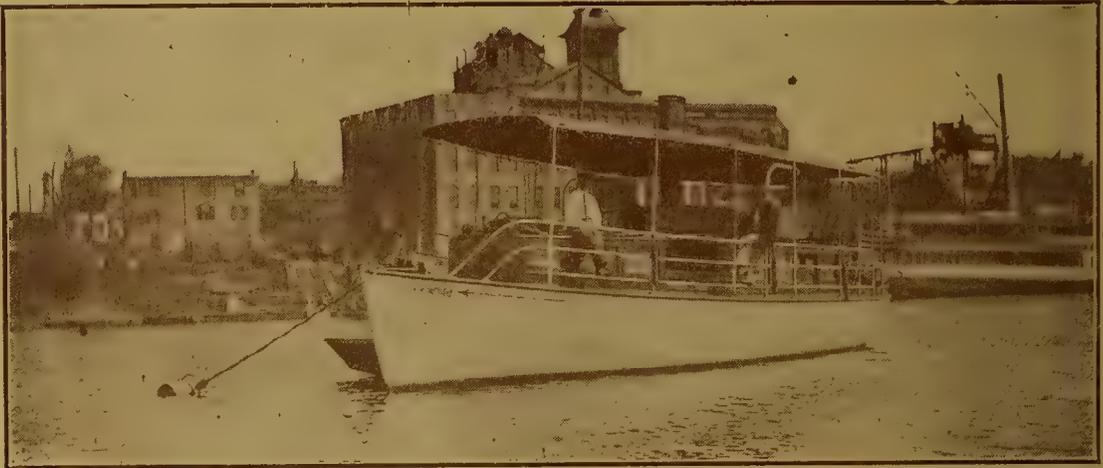
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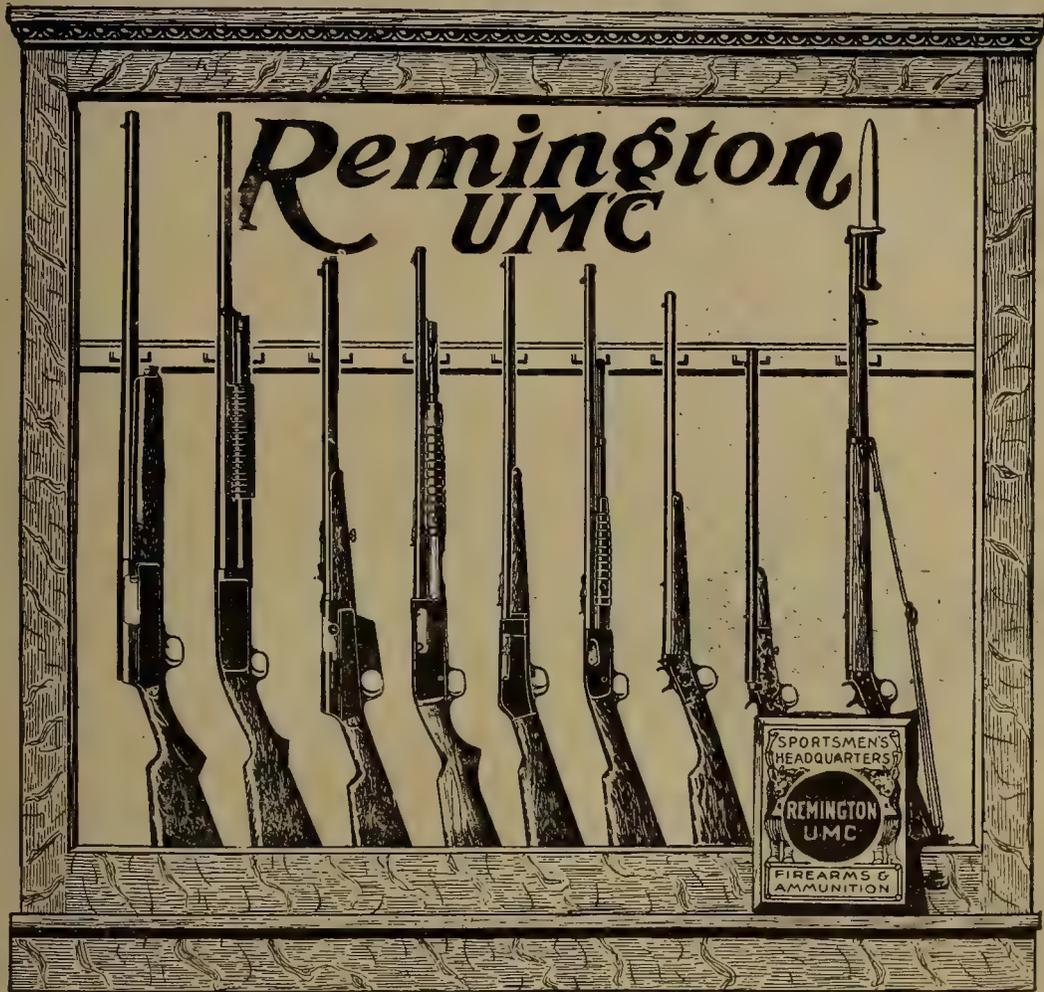
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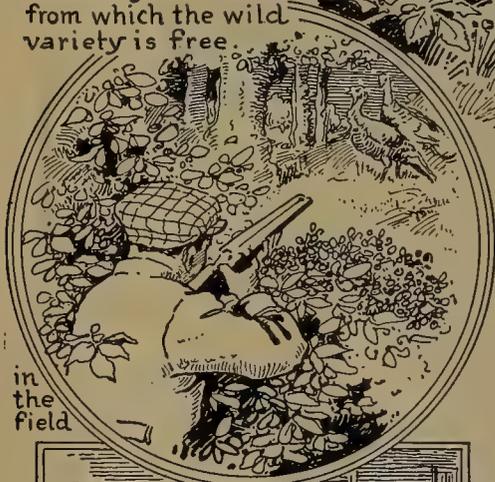
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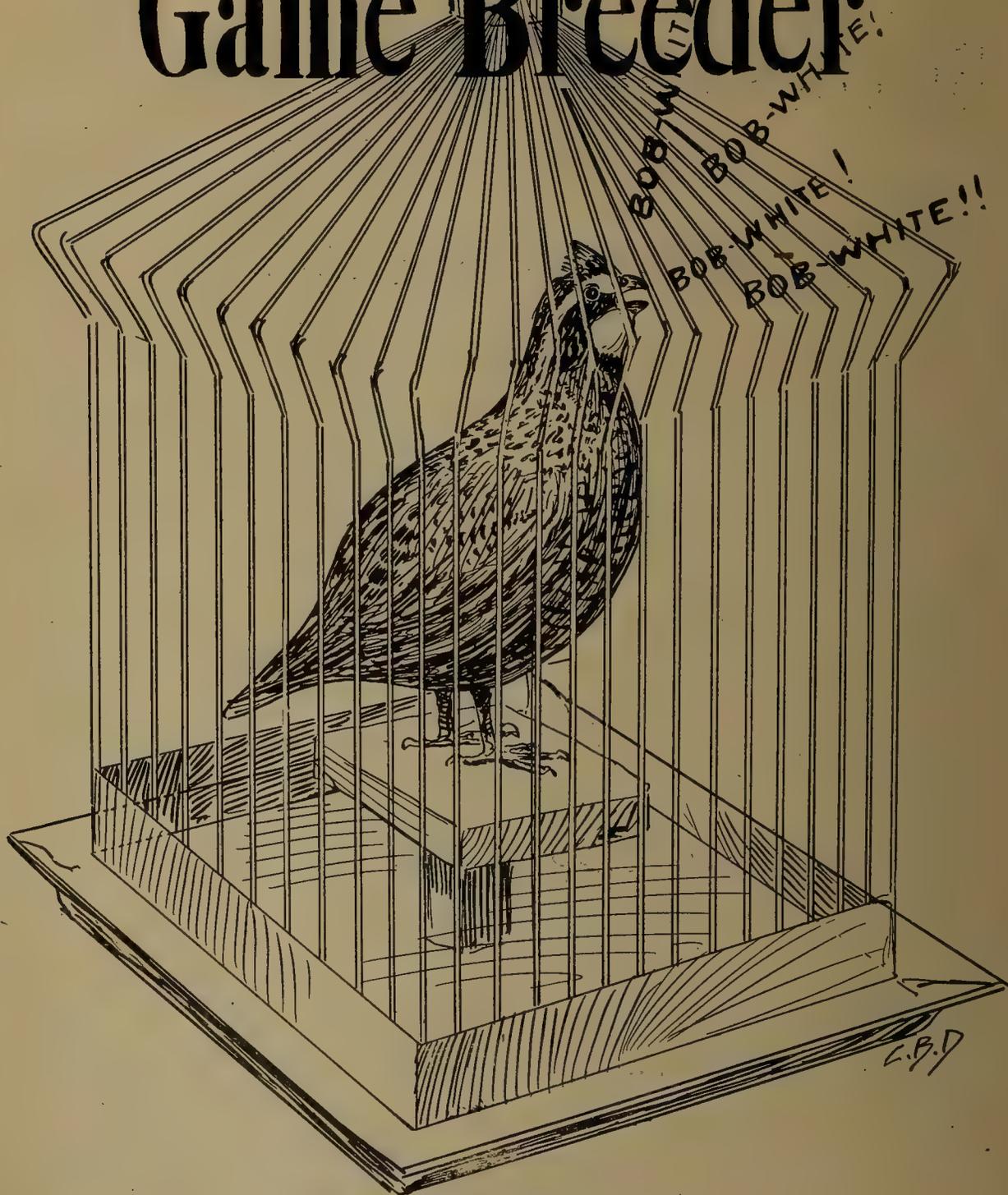
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The Game Breeder



OUR NEW SONG BIRD.

The above picture, the delight of confirmed mischief-makers, was printed at a time when one State after another was prohibiting quail shooting. The nonsense stopped quickly after the appearance of the picture and for several years there was no legislation intended to put bobwhite on the song bird list. Those opposed to field sports seem to think it smart to get quail shooting prohibited for a term of years and later to have the term extended from time to time. Why not make a song bird out of the ruffed grouse? He certainly is a drummer and some think the drumming is vocal.

The Game Breeder

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SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

More Laws.

Forty-two States and Alaska, Porto Rico and Hawaii have legislative sessions this year and the amount of legislation relating to game and fish, no doubt, will be large. It is to be hoped, and safely it may be predicted, that the number of laws will not be as large as it has been in previous years: the "more game and fewer game laws" idea seems to have traveled far and wide.

It is gratifying to observe that there is much interest in game breeding enactments and that probably the few remaining States which have prevented game production will enact short simple laws encouraging such industry; and these laws promise to be permanent and not subject to repeated changes when they permit the breeding and sale of all species of game without too many regulations and restrictions.

A Much Needed Amendment.

The laws should be amended everywhere so as to permit breeders to trap game for propagation purposes. It should not be legal to destroy a certain number of birds and illegal to take a similar number alive for the purpose of multiplying their numbers. This idea seems to have been endorsed by all intelligent sportsmen and naturalists.

More Laws for Pennsylvania.

At a meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and representatives of sportsmen's organizations, January 4, recommendations for more game laws were prepared for submission to the leg-

islature. It was proposed to shorten the season for small game; to make the seasons for wild turkeys November 10 to November 25; for Snipe September 1 to November 25. Raccoon to be unprotected because of the harm they do to wild life and trout. The season for waterfowl to be September 1 to December 15.

Daily bag limits are recommended: ruffed grouse, 4; rabbits, 8. Season limits are proposed for ruffed grouse, 20; wild turkey, 1; quail, 25; woodcock, 20; ring-necked pheasants, 10; Hungarian quail, 10; bear, 1; assorted squirrels, 20; rabbits, 40; hares, 15; deer, 1.

Oklahoma.

Oklahoma sportsmen have resolved to have numerous changes in the game laws: providing for a dove season August 1 to October 1; a quail season November 1-December 15; the removal of the bag limit from ducks and geese; a bounty on hawks, 50 cents; a small fee for fishing licenses, etc.

Virginia.

Reports from Virginia indicate that the new game law is being given a fair trial. Hundreds of arrests have been made, for the most part, we are told, for failure to purchase shooting licenses. This, after all, is the most important part of game statutes. Anyone easily can forget the ever changing bag limit provisions; the fleeting regulations about seasons and the having of game in possession for propagation purposes, etc., but no one should forget to pay his license

fee. Those interested in the Virginia law say it is very popular. It is to be hoped that it will not result in the prohibition of quail shooting as similar laws have necessarily resulted in many States, including New York, with the exception of Long Island where the quail thrive because the laws permit and encourage the people to look after them properly.

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Game Reservations.

Five big game preserves and 67 bird reservations are maintained by the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. The mammal reservations include the Montana Bison Range, the Wind Cave Game Preserve in South Dakota, the Niobrara Reservation in Nebraska, the Elk Refuge in Wyoming, and the Sullys Hill Game Preserve in North Dakota. The Niobrara Reservation was intended as a bird reserve, but has been stocked with big game and is at present maintained chiefly for buffalo and elk, according to the annual report of the chief of the Biological Survey, just issued. In the first three reservations mentioned the herds of buffalo have shown a notable increase since their establishment a few years ago, says the report, and now include 207 head, or more than a third of all the buffalo which now belong to the government. The elk number about 160 and the antelope 40, making a total of about 400 head of big game.

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National Bird Reservations.

The number of bird reservations was increased during the year by the addition of the Big Lake Reservation in Arkansas. Sixty-seven reservations are now maintained primarily for birds. The report urges the importance and necessity of retaining as breeding grounds for waterfowl and other birds, tracts of land which are not especially valuable for agricultural purposes. The area of marsh land necessary for breeding grounds is insignificant, it is said, in comparison with the benefits which will accrue to the public through the increase in our supply of game birds.

Private Game Farms.

An excellent report of the Massachusetts Commissioners of Fish and Game contains the following about private game farms:

The policy of the Commission has always been to encourage in every possible way the artificial propagation of game birds. Chapter 567, Acts of 1913, provides that a person, firm or corporation may, upon request, receive a permit to propagate any species of deer, elk, pheasants, quail, partridge, geese, wild ducks or squirrels for sale, exchange or to be given away. People are beginning to recognize the benefits accruing from such undertakings, as is well evidenced by the annually increasing number of permits issued.

A table shows the commendable results being obtained, particularly with pheasants and ducks. The commission says that such work contributes toward the public welfare.

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Southern Quail Shooting.

The number of quail clubs or syndicates formed to lease quail shooting in the South is increasing rapidly. There are also many new individual game preserves. The annual shooting rent is from five to ten cents per acre and in some cases the amount of the taxes on lands and buildings. Many small farms usually are included in one preserve and one or more gamekeepers are employed to look after the game and to control its natural enemies so that big bags can be made safely every year without any fear of extermination.

Excellent kennels full of pointers, setters and spaniels are to be found at these places and the keepers see that the dogs are well trained and in good condition when the shooting opens. The farmers are well pleased since they have no taxes to pay and have an abundance of quail and often wild turkeys.

The shooting is comparatively inexpensive. There are no expensive pens, coops and other equipment necessary for pheasant rearing. The quail find most of their food in the fields and woods. At

some of the "shoots" pheasants and wild ducks are hand reared but at most of the places the quail, doves and wild turkeys are the principal game.

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The Hitchcock Bill.

Mr. Hitchcock has introduced a bill in the Senate of the United States to give effect to the convention between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds. The appropriation seems absurdly small and entirely inadequate to accomplish any results in the way of protecting the game on an area as large as the United States. One hundred and seventy thousand dollars will be enough to start a good clerical force in Washington, but it takes many times this amount for state officers to inadequately execute some of the State game laws. Mr. Wm. S. Haskell said at the game dinner of the Game Conservation Society that \$400,000 would be needed. We think the amount he named is not nearly enough. An appropriation of \$170,000 would simply be a waste of money. Anything that is worth doing is worth doing well. The bill should be amended so as to provide that nothing contained in the act should be held to apply to game breeders in order to avoid the unpleasant misunderstandings which occur between food producers and State game policemen in some States where politics seem to be more important than food.

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The Meeker Bill.

Congressman Jacob E. Meeker has introduced a bill for the conservation of migratory game in the House of Representatives. The bill provides that it shall be unlawful to kill or have in possession any migratory game bird except between the dates named under the Federal law for killing the same with five days added, "for the purpose of consuming the game killed." Section 2 provides that it shall not be unlawful to possess or ship live specimens of migratory game birds or their eggs for propagation purposes and public exhibition, "but then only un-

der permit duly issued under State or Federal authority."

It will be observed that the game breeders' industry is recognized, but we would prefer to see the bill amended so as to provide that, "nothing in this act shall be held to apply to game produced by industry or owned by game breeders."

There are numerous restrictions in the bill which may possibly be used by a special U. S. game police force just as restrictions in State laws have been used by ignorant game wardens to hamper and annoy those who are engaged in the laudable industry of producing game for the people to eat. It is now well known if this industry be encouraged the game breeders soon will supply all the people with cheap game for their tables and that millions of dollars which are expended annually to secure new game laws can be saved.

There are provisions in the bill limiting the daily bag to 15 birds; prohibiting the sale of migratory game birds; regulating the shipping, and the kind of guns to be used, etc. In other words the United States is asked to enact a lot of restrictions similar to those already in the State statute books and which the States are much better equipped to execute than the National government is. There are good scientific reasons why such restrictions never have and never will result in the people having an abundance of game to eat.

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Destructive Devices.

Section 9 of the Meeker bill aims to prevent the use of "any unusually destructive devices for killing, injuring, capturing or taking migratory birds, such as automatic, pump, or repeating guns." etc.

We hold no brief for the makers of "pump guns." We care very little about them. We are chiefly concerned about this kind of legislation since it surely will be followed, if successful, by legislation prohibiting the use of double-barrel guns, because the game will continue to vanish and the few people who are opposed to sport and in favor of restrictions will

still have a good excuse for collecting money to be expended in getting more laws.

The people who succeeded in putting the dove (a bird which Audubon regarded as one of our best wild food birds) on the song bird list, soon were active in trying to exterminate another excellent food bird which commonly was served on toast. I say, "exterminate," advisedly since all naturalists are aware that in populous regions it is absolutely necessary to encourage the propagation and practical protection of game if it is to become a food supply and that laws prohibiting the shooting and sale of game tend to exterminate it because no one can be expected to do anything for nothing. The wood-pigeon is an abundant food in England. In some places it is overabundant. It has no such laws as the Meeker bill to contend with.

There can be no doubt that if the few people who are enthusiastic about securing laws creating fanciful crimes, which are unknown in countries which have game are successful in preventing the use of one kind of gun, in time they will be active in the attempt to prevent the use of other kinds of guns. "For Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do."

In England where the market gunners are permitted to take migratory game birds with guns far more fatal than those mentioned in the bill, and where trappers are permitted to trap migratory wild ducks by the thousands for the people to eat, the birds are always abundant and cheap in the markets. Fishermen in America take fish in large nets for the people to eat. To be consistent the Meeker bill well might be amended so as to provide that only 15 fish be taken in a day for sport, on a pin-hook, and that fish so taken be not sold as food and only shipped home under fanciful regulations.

The truth of the matter is that Congress is asked to handle "wrong end first" a big economic food question of vast importance to all of the people. We would suggest that the matter is suf-

ficiently important for a congressional investigation in order that the true reason why thousands of laws have not produced and can not produce any food for the people to eat may become known.

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Now is the time to buy rabbits for the game farm and preserve.

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Game breeding rapidly has become a big food-producing industry throughout the United States and Canada. We predict that our game census will show that millions of eggs have been sold by the end of the year.

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The laws should be amended everywhere so as to permit game breeders to obtain stock birds and eggs for propagation purposes. There are more wild ducks in the United States than in any other country and the common species are sold as food in many markets.

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Since it has been legal to produce pheasants and ducks profitably these birds have become abundant in many States. Hundreds of thousands are sold annually. Why not make it legal to increase the numbers of other game birds which most need the breeders' attention?

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The State Game Departments in many states are becoming of great economic importance.

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The idea that we should have plenty of game to eat in a big country like the United States is growing rapidly.

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We now predict that in two or three years at most the United States will be the biggest game producing country in the world.

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How would it do to lay all new restrictive game laws on the table for three years and give the game a chance? We will guarantee 50 cent wild ducks abundant in the markets and soon all game should be as cheap as it is in countries where game farming is a legal industry.

OUR QUAILS OR PARTRIDGES.

BY D. W. HUNTINGTON.

The wild turkeys, grouse and quail or partridges of North America constitute the finest group of true game birds to be found in the world. The pheasants of the old world have brighter plumage and may be said to be more beautiful than our grouse and quail, but only a few of the pheasants are suitable for sport and none of them when shot over dogs compares favorably with the American grouse of the woods and prairies and our splendid bobwhite which, for many reasons, I regard as the best game bird in the world. It lies well to the dog; presents a difficult mark in the open and tests to the utmost the skill of the experienced sportsman when it takes to difficult covers which it usually does after the first shot on the stubble. The size of the quail makes it easy to carry a good number in the pocket or game bag; its flesh is tender and delicious and there are few better birds on the table. Bobwhite is a better game bird than the other quails simply because he behaves better before the dogs than the others do.

Many sportsmen and naturalists in America have collections of pheasants including not only the common sporting species, the ringnecks and the dark-necked pheasants, but also many of the rare and expensive Aviary species. The number of people who own extensive collections of pheasants is increasing rapidly in all parts of the United States and in the provinces of Canada, but very few, if any, persons own good collections of quail. Before describing the different species of quail or partridges I wish to call the reader's attention to the desirability of making a collection of American quails. Many of the birds have beautiful plumage; all are very good to eat; a mixed bag is interesting and desirable. I would therefore strongly

advise those who can afford to experiment to give the quails a trial. A collection of all of our quail in the aviary can be made much more inexpensively than a collection of a few of the rare pheasants can be made, and I am quite sure a collection of quail containing the plumed and crested quails of California, the two scaled quails of the Rio Grande country, the handsome Gambel's quail or partridge, the strange masked bobwhite, with a black throat instead of the familiar white one of bobwhite, and the bizarre-mearns quail, dotted with white like a little guinea hen, and last, but not least, the three species of bobwhite found in the United States and also some of the rare and beautiful forms found in Central and Southern Mexico will be found interesting and profitable.

I know a number of sportsmen who own several species of quail, but I doubt if there are any who own all the American species. I doubt if any of the commercial breeders, even the big ones, own all the quails or can supply them quickly. I have no doubt that any man or woman who understands game breeding can quickly have an interesting and very profitable business if he or she will make a collection of the American quail or partridges with a view to selling the birds and eggs. I strongly favor the range system of breeding, but hand rearing has many advocates. Quail are comparatively small feeders and the eggs of the common species will sell for about twice as much as the eggs of the common pheasants and wild ducks.

Most of the quails or partridges easily can be procured from those who advertise in *The Game Breeder*, but probably not all without some delay since, as I have said, I doubt if any one can say he owns all the species or can supply them easily. The list of the quails of the

United States and Canada with an estimate of the prices is as follows:

	Per pair
Bobwhite	\$4 to \$6
Florida bobwhite	4 to 6
Texas bobwhite	4 to 5
Mexican bobwhite	3 to 4
Mountain quail	10 to 15
California Valley Quail..	4 to 5
Gambel's Quail	4 to 5
Scaled Quail	4 to 5
Chestnut Bellied Scaled..	5 to 6
Mearns quail	4 to 6
Masked bobwhite	10 to 15

One way of saving birds from extinction is for many persons to make them profitably plentiful. This is a modern advance from the old method of making the game laws, preventing industry, profitably plentiful. There is no danger of birds being extirpated when many persons are encouraged to engage in their practical preservation for food, for profit, for sport and for aviary and exhibition purposes.

There is no danger of the pheasants ever becoming extirpated. Our readers now own many thousands of bobwhites and their numbers will be increased from year to year in the absence of "fool laws" prohibiting the industry of quail breeding for sport and for profit. Some

species of quail are very scarce and the birds are in danger of extinction. I wish to encourage the profitable production of these in order to save them.

In order to encourage the profitable breeding of all species of quail I have asked the board of directors of the Conservation Society to offer some substantial prizes for the best results in breeding certain species including the masked bobwhite, the plumed quail, the Mearns quail and the chestnut bellied scaled quail. I hope it will be possible to offer these prizes and, in the meantime, I would strongly advise those who can afford to have collections of birds to attempt complete collections of the American quails. Many new quail breeders are starting, and it should be comparatively easy to purchase all of the species and their eggs, excepting the masked bobwhite and possibly some forms of the California plumed or mountain quails. In a series of short papers (to follow) the various species of American quail or partridges and their habits and distribution will be described. I feel sure there will be an increasing demand for quail and I would advise collectors and sportsmen to buy their stock birds early. The sale of a few eggs at present prices will quickly restore the amount paid for the birds.

PRAIRIE GROUSE AND SHARPTAILS.

Second Paper.

By D. W. HUNTINGTON.

There are hundreds of thousands of square miles in the United States where the prairie and sharptailed grouse once were abundant. The birds have vanished in many states and it has become necessary to prohibit shooting in others in the hope that some grouse may survive. Elliot says the prairie grouse at one time was dispersed over a large part of the Eastern United States and was by no means especially a prairie dweller, but it is difficult to ascertain where its limits

and those of the heath-hen, now restricted to Martha's Vineyard, originally were, but probably somewhere along the boundaries of the Middle States. I do not imagine, he says, the heath-hen was more of a woodland species than is the prairie chicken, but both dwelt among the open woods if there were any within their range.

There can be no doubt that the heath-hen once was abundant on the scrub oak lands of Long Island and New Jersey.

These birds at one time were common and cheap in the markets of New York and Boston. They resemble the grouse of the prairies so closely that only an expert can distinguish them.

The range of the prairie sharp-tailed grouse extended from Montana and the Dakotas to New Mexico and from Illinois and Wisconsin to Colorado. The sharp-tailed grouse and the Columbia sharp-tailed grouse are very similar to the prairie sharp-tail in pattern, markings and habits and the three species for sporting and food purposes may be regarded as one. The range of sharp-tailed grouse is British America from Lake Superior and Hudson Bay to Fort Simpson; the range of the Columbia sharp-tail is from Montana and Wyoming to Oregon and Washington and northward to Alaska.

It is evident there is an abundance of territory suitable to grouse breeding and if a very small part of the area be devoted to this industry, soon the birds can be made plentiful for sport and for food for all of the people in the country. There is literally room enough for all and soon there will be birds enough for all provided a small part of the area suitable for grouse be properly utilized.

The prairie grouse still occur in some of the counties of Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and a few other states and the sharp-tailed grouse are fairly plentiful in parts of Montana and other Northwestern States and in the provinces of Canada, which they inhabit. All naturalists, however, agree that these two splendid grouse of the open country are doomed to extinction unless shooting be prohibited, and I am inclined to believe they will be thoroughly extirpated from the greater part of their range even if stringent laws be enacted prohibiting shooting at all times. The close cultivation of the land makes it impossible for these birds to find cover and food during certain seasons of the year; they are exposed to their many natural enemies and the dogs, cats and rats; they are destroyed by forest fires and farm machinery, and being large, easy and tempt-

ing marks, they are shot, no doubt, by men and boys who are not familiar with game laws or who disregard them when a fine chance offers to have a grouse for dinner. The additional checks to the increase of the numbers of the birds referred to are sufficient, I believe, to warrant the statement that the birds are doomed to extinction even if shooting be prohibited provided no one looks after the grouse or takes any interest in their propagation and practical protection.

The vast area suitable to these birds, where they have become extinct or nearly so, easily can be made to produce thousands of tons of grouse as they formerly did, provided it pays to do so. There are records of as many as twenty tons of prairie grouse being shipped to the New York markets in a single consignment.

Fortunately some of the prairie states now have laws permitting and encouraging the profitable breeding of prairie grouse and I can imagine no industry which will prove to be more profitable. The birds command splendid prices and can be produced much cheaper than pheasants can be, and a good crop of quail can be looked after on the same ground in the central and southern parts of the area inhabited by the grouse and as far north, in fact, as Montana* and some of the provinces of Canada, where the bobwhites have been successfully introduced.

The grouse are not detrimental to agriculture; but, on the other hand, are known to be highly beneficial on account of their fondness for grasshoppers and other insects.

Since the grouse must have natural covers and foods at all seasons of the year, it is important that the grouse breeder should know what these covers and foods are and how to restore and maintain them. Late in the year the grouse are strong on the wing and have a well sustained flight, often going a mile or more before alighting; it is important,

*See article on bobwhites in Montana, by Hon. M. D. Baldwin, Game Breeder for November, 1914.

therefore, that the grouse ranch or preserve should be a large one if the grouse are to be shot. I believe they can be reared profitably on smaller areas where they are kept quiet at all seasons and are properly fed and protected from their natural enemies.

There are many large farms where wheat corn and other grains are grown which are uninhabitable for the grouse because when the plowing is done all covers and natural foods are destroyed. These places easily can be made to yield thousands of dollars worth of grouse every season.

Let us take, for example, one of the big wheat farms of North Dakota, where the stubble is plowed under annually and where the fields are bounded by wire fences.

To prepare such an area for the successful introduction and breeding of grouse certain areas should be planted with natural covers and foods which should be left when the plowing is done.

The birds easily can be preserved by planting long strips of cover a few yards in width between the fields. When the grain is harvested the grouse will resort to the stubbles and find an abundance of food for a time and in the winter they will find suitable foods in the areas especially planted for their protection. If their natural enemies be persistently shot and trapped the grouse soon will become more plentiful than they ever were and they will remain so from year to year, although thousands of birds be shot and marketed every season. Many thousands of birds also can be trapped and sold alive for propagation and a good profit can be made by selling eggs.

In the next paper I shall describe the covers and foods which should be planted especially for the grouse and the paper will be illustrated with diagrams showing how the covers should be made and how the natural foods should be planted to produce the best results.

(To be Continued.)

FISH PONDS ON FARMS.

BY ROBERT S. JOHNSON AND M. F. STAPLETON.

U. S. Bureau of Fisheries.

(Continued from the January Number.)

Water Supply—Volume, Quality and Temperature.

In a brood pond, a constant water level should be maintained at all times, especially during the breeding season. The required flow, which will vary with the character of the soil, must be sufficient to replace loss by evaporation and seepage. An amount just short of overflowing the pond is the ideal to be attained, as it is desirable to avoid a current. A surplus of water is preferable to a shortage, as any excess may be easily diverted through waste channels or held as an emergency reserve.

For a one-acre pond, where the sides and bottom are of clay or rich loam, a flow of from 30 to 50 gallons per min-

ute should be sufficient to maintain a proper water level at all times, while sandy or gravel soil untreated may require double that amount. A practical method of measuring the flow of water from any source is as follows:

Select a stretch on the stream or ditch affording as straight and uniform a course as possible. If the water at any point is carried in a flume, it will be better to measure at that point. Lay off a distance of, say from 10 to 50 feet; measure the width of flowing water at about six different places in this distance, and obtain its average width. Likewise at these same points measure the depth of water at three or four places across the stream and obtain its average depth.

Then drop a float in the water and note the number of seconds it takes to traverse the given distance. The product obtained by multiplying the average width in feet by the average depth in feet by the velocity (expressed in number of feet per second) will give the flow of the stream in cubic feet per second. From the figures so obtained it is advisable to deduct about 20 per cent., as the surface velocity of water is in excess of the actual average velocity.

High temperatures in season are necessary in brood and rearing ponds. If the water is cold at the source, the fault must be corrected by reducing the inflow to the lowest quantity that will maintain a uniform level, thus allowing the maximum absorption of warmth from the sun and air. Water that does not fall below 60 degrees F. in the brood pond during the spawning season is desirable.

SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY FOR PONDS.

Springs are the most dependable of all sources of water supply, requiring the minimum expenditure in preparation and being the least subject to outside influence. The presence of injurious mineral substances can usually be detected without expert analysis, but the amateur fish-culturist may be surprised to learn that so-called pure water often carries abnormal proportions of oxygen or nitrogen gases in quantities inimical to fish life. This may be due either to subaeration or supraaeration, and the results following the use of such water will be as disastrous in the one case as in the other.

This contingency and the requisite of high temperature make precarious the embodiment of springs and wells within the pond bed. In the absence of thoroughly demonstrated fitness, the more prudent course will be to provide an independent water supply reservoir, apportioning its area to the volume of the spring. While being held in this reservoir the gaseous contents of the water will be corrected and its temperature seasonably modified.

The flow from many springs is so obstructed through the trampling of stock

or from other causes that they emit only a small portion of the water available near the surface. In such cases the supply may usually be materially increased by sinking 2-foot lengths of terra-cotta pipe over the bubble and removing the incased earth. Several such pipes in a promising area will often result in an astonishing increase in flow. Where the cost is not prohibitive, however, the better course will be to excavate the site and wall it in with rock and concrete.

In profusely watered sections—notably in the states bordering the Great Lakes—there are many tracts of marshy characteristics, some of them hundreds of acres in extent, promiscuously interlaced with tiny rivulets which combine to form streams of considerable size. Seemingly inexhaustible quantities of water lie close to the surface in many such places, and by driving pipes only a few feet into the ground flowing wells are obtained.

Where the volume of water is a matter of concern the overflow level of spring reservoirs, sunken tiling or driven pipes should be kept as low as possible, consistent with the object in view, as the flow will naturally decrease with the elevation of the head against which it works.

A brood pond contiguous to a spring reservoir may be fed through a spillway directly into the stock pond. Where a reservoir is impracticable, at least partial correction of any abnormal condition of the water may be brought about by conducting it to the pond through open ditches or raceways of wood or concrete, the choice of material being determined by adaptability of the soil and the comparative expenditure involved.

The chief objection to creek or river water as a supply for fish ponds is the great quantity of mud and débris carried during freshets, and the excessive cost of effective measures to prevent its introduction into the ponds. Streams subject to extremely high-water periods are totally impracticable as a source of supply, while those of lesser floods can be utilized only after a considerable initial expenditure, and much vigilance will be

entailed in their use, as large and continuous deposits of mud in breeding ponds will ruin any eggs present, and invariably kill recently hatched fry. Furthermore, protracted roily water will retard and sometimes prevent growth of the aquatic vegetation so essential to pond fish-cultural operations. It is also imperative that undesirable and predaceous fishes be rigorously excluded from the ponds, and it will be impossible to accomplish this if the water supply is beyond control during certain periods.

From the foregoing it can readily be seen that if a stream is subject to appreciable changes, as a result of storms or drainage from local watersheds, it will be unwise to establish a pond therein by the construction of dams, as is often contemplated. It will be entirely feasible, however, to conduct water from such a stream to ponds adjacently located, provided the intake is adequately screened, the supply arranged so that it can be cut off during times of excessive turbidity, and measures are taken to prevent the inundation of the pond site in high-water periods.

It may be necessary to erect a dam in the channel of the stream, to provide the required head of water for a gravity flow to the pond, in which case it may be of a simple type, designed merely to accomplish the end in view. The intake from the stream should be wide and deep, thus presenting a large screen surface to obviate the complete stoppage of the water supply in the absence of the caretaker. It should be covered by a series of screens graduated in size, the first to consist of coarse hog wire, or wooden racks with like openings, to catch the largest objects. The intermediate screen (of 2-inch mesh) will intercept vegetation, while the inner one must be fine enough to exclude smaller débris and the fry of undesirable fishes. Immediately below the screens, gates should be provided so that the water may be shut off at will and diverted into a storm channel when it becomes too roily for use.

Where the source of supply is a lake the difficulties referred to above are not encountered, lake water seldom being

roily and demanding less attention to screens owing to absence of currents.

Uncontaminated open waters have many advantages. Their temperatures are seasonal; usually there are no abnormal gaseous constituents to be corrected; the plankton or pelagic animal and plant life contained therein forms a valuable addition to the natural food supply in the pond, and were it not for the difficulty of control and occasional roiliness, such waters would be preferable to springs and wells as a source of supply to fish ponds.

Wells, both flowing and power lifted, are successfully used in some sections for the cultivation of fish. Before incurring the expense of constructing ponds to be supplied from such a source, however, it will be advisable to thoroughly test the water in order to demonstrate its fitness for fish culture. This can best be done by fitting up a running-water supply in a retaining reservoir, and holding therein, for an extended period, a number of specimens of the species of fish it is desired to propagate. If they thrive, it may be assumed that the water is free from injurious gases or mineral substances and is adapted to the work it is proposed to undertake.

RAIN WATER (SURFACE DRAINAGE).

Another class of ponds available for the propagation of fish, known as "sky ponds," embraces those wholly or partly dependent upon local precipitation for their supply of water. Such ponds are invariably profuse in the production of fish food, and for this reason would be ideal were there an auxiliary water supply adequate to maintain constant surface levels during the critical nesting season, and a fair depth throughout the remainder of the year. In the absence of this reserve many such ponds become practically dry during periods of drought or freeze to the bottom in the winter months. Where ponds are subjected to such conditions fish cultural operations are impracticable.

Ponds dependent entirely upon precipitation and surface drainage for their water supply must necessarily be located at a low elevation, in order that the sur-

face drainage from surrounding lands may be taken advantage of. Land depressions, ravines protected from floods, or swamp lands, are desirable sites for such ponds.

Catfishes only can be recommended for the best of "sky ponds," strictly speaking, and the results even with them will be very uncertain.

(To be Continued.)

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.



Post and Board Side of Big Pen.

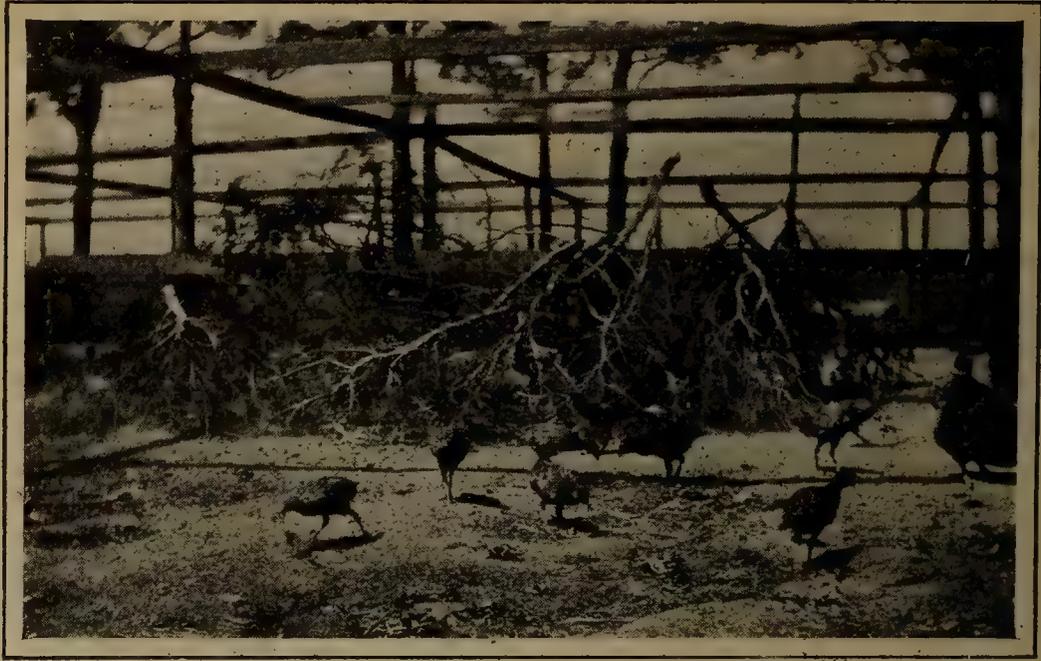
Rabbits.

Now is the time to buy rabbits for stocking game preserves. Advertisers in *The Game Breeder* can furnish them. Aside from the sport they afford on upland preserves, they are known to be beneficial where many foxes are about since br'er fox must have something to eat and often he finds it easier to take a rabbit than it is to have game birds for dinner. Owen Jones, the talented English game keeper and author, says the English rabbit is "the fox's bread and butter."

Sport with Rabbits.

We are inclined to agree with those who say much sport can be had with the "cotton-tails." The late President Cleveland was fond of rabbit shooting and it can not be denied that a winter day in the field for rabbits produces much sport

and some excellent health-giving exercise. The sport is at its best when the snow is on the ground; when the trees and shrubs are covered with sparkling frost and it is at this season the sport should be at its best and undoubtedly the meat secured is in prime condition. Absurd indeed seem the laws prohibiting rabbit shooting when a "tracking snow" is on the ground. Such laws no doubt would have become contagious in many states, as other absurdities have, were it not for the "more game movement" which is responsible for checking much nonsense and for producing many much-needed reforms in the game laws. A rabbit club can have splendid sport, as some now do, with the farmers' permission, but we should remember that rabbits do some harm and there are places where they should not be kept plentiful without compensation to the landowners who may be damaged by the sport. Such



Brush Covers.—Interior Big Pen.

matters are adjusted properly in places where game preserving is properly carried on and where the shooting always is lively.

We should all go in for more rabbits and less nonsense about shooting them on "a tracking snow."

The Big Pheasant Pen.

A great deal of interest has been shown regarding the use of big pens for pheasant breeding. We shall have some interesting articles on this subject written by practical breeders.

The picture of a successful big pen printed in this issue gives an idea of how brush is arranged to give the birds some shelter and concealment. Defeated cock birds easily escape their rivals by running through such brush and we have had hundreds of birds in such a pen without any considerable loss due to fighting. At the time the picture was made the pen was used to confine some young pheasants.

Egg-Eating.

Some pheasants form the habit of eating eggs that are laid in the pens. Various means have been tried to stop this bad habit. Often only one bird in a pen will be found eating eggs, and this bird

should be removed before others form the habit. One English authority says it is difficult to catch a hen after it has been observed to eat eggs, since it is difficult to distinguish it until it can be captured. It is important to gather eggs frequently in order to remove the temptation.

Simpson says the best method to combat the evil is to place several cast iron eggs, painted as near the color of pheasant eggs as possible, in the breeding pen. The birds seldom take a second peck at these iron eggs and avoid the true eggs lying about.

Feather Eating.

Pheasants sometimes may be noticed eating feathers and plucking them from other birds. I once observed a big pen full of young pheasants, about two-thirds grown, many of which were observed plucking the feathers from other birds. The keeper could not account for the habit. Page says it is the result of a craving for animal food and suggests that this be supplied.

Snake and Rabbit.

Earnest Cramer, H. S. Soule and Earnest Kuebler, three sportsmen of The Dalles, while hunting on the North Fork

of Mill Creek, on the east side of Bald Butte, on September 3, killed a very large rattlesnake which had just swallowed a cottontail rabbit whole and was lying out in the open enjoying the feeling of fullness experienced after a good meal. They cut the snake open and found that part of the hair on the rabbit was dry and that he had been swallowed head first. Part of the rattlers had been broken off, but the reptile still had twelve left, which evidently were enough to charm bunny.—Oregon Sportsman.

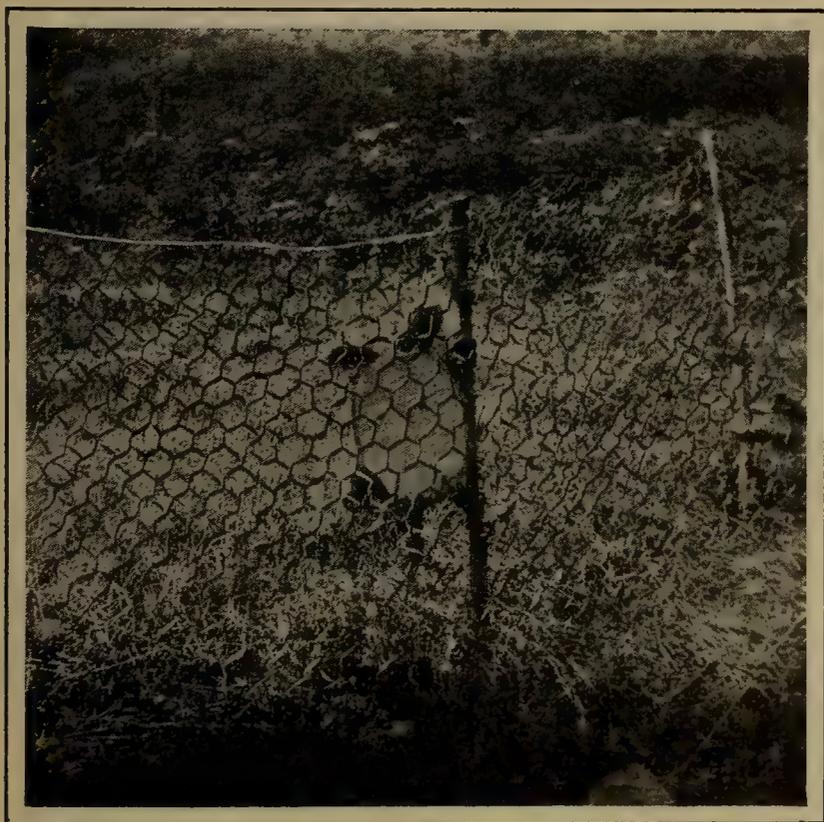
out. The snapper was snapped in this position with a Kodak. A search for the other three showed that they had either climbed, jumped or flown over the six foot wire fence. Not knowing the powers of these mysterious animals, I cannot hold up my right hand and state which method of escape they chose.

Yours' truly,

New York. ROBERT T. MORRIS.

Opposed to the Big Pen.

Gene M. Simpson, of Oregon, one of



Turtle Climbing Wire.

Snapping Turtles.

Four of the snapping turtles which were living upon my trout and ducklings were captured and put in a spring. Some trash was placed at the bottom for hiding purposes in order to make them feel comfortable, though wet.

Around the spring I placed a wire fence about six feet high, believing the turtles to be as safe as I was when baptized. One morning I observed that something was going wrong (in the turtle cage). A turtle was found half way up the wire enclosure evidently climbing

the most successful of the large breeders on the Pacific Coast, says: "I have tried large breeding yards but with very poor success. The method is quite common in England and consists of an open field of about one acre enclosed with a six-foot woven wire fence, into which is placed about five dozen pinioned pheasant hens and one dozen cocks. One cock usually 'bosses' all the rest; eggs are hard to find, and, worst of all, the eggs that are left the crows often get."

[Crows and other winged vermin can not enter a covered pen such as we have used.—Editor.]

The Largest Herd of Buffalo.

The Canadian Government is meeting with signal success in its efforts to preserve the buffalo from the swift extinction which threatened it a few years ago. This is shown in a report on the growth of the herd at Wainwright Buffalo Park, Alberta, just issued by J. B. Harkin, Dominion Parks Commissioner.

The report shows that in April, 1909, the herd numbered 402. Since then it has gradually increased at the rate of about 200 a year, until today it numbers 2,077.

HISTORY OF THE HERD.

The history of this herd, now the largest in the world, dates back to 1873, when a Pend o'Oreille Indian captured four little bison calves—two bulls and two heifers—by cutting them out of a stampeded herd on the Flathead reservation in Montana. In accordance with a peculiar characteristic, often noticed by old plainsmen, these young creatures obediently followed the horses of the hunters who had slain or driven off their mothers.

The Indian in question gave them to the Mission of St. Ignatius, where they were kept as pets and became as domesticated as ordinary cattle. When the heifers were four years old, each had a calf. From that time on they gradually increased in number, until, in 1884, there were thirteen head, and finding the care of them too great a tax, decided to sell them. Ten head were bought for \$250 apiece by C. A. Allard and Michel Pablo, who were ranching on the reservation, and were shrewd enough to see that specimens of what was even then almost an extinct animal would eventually become very valuable.

MADE THEM A FORTUNE.

The herd increased under their careful supervision, and in a few years it became possible to sell specimens at high prices. Some idea of the average rate of increase may be deduced from the observed fact that half the cows give birth to calves every year, while twin calves are not uncommon. As a rule the bison calf is a very hardy creature.

There are instances of the Pablo-Allard calves finding their feet in less than a minute after birth and showing fight within half an hour.

In 1906 the Hon. Frank Oliver, then Minister of the Interior, obtained for the Dominion Government an option on the 600 unsold head belonging to Pablo and Allard, and eventually they were all bought for \$200,000. The "round-up" lasted two months, and was carried out by 75 cowboys, and was accomplished with a loss of less than 1 per cent.

Since it became the property of the Canadian Government this great herd has fared well in the new National Park at Wainwright. The park is becoming a favorite resort of the traveller. It has an area of 150 square miles and is securely enclosed with a high fence of wire.

Elk in Canada.

I have ten elk, three of which were young of last spring. There are two stags and eight does.

T. B. MACAULAY.

Many More Quail.

Sorry I could not attend the dinner and hope I will be able to be there next time. I received several thousand more quail yesterday and they are dandies. I know how to handle quail and keep them in fine condition. It has cost a lot of time, money and worry, but I feel that it was well worth while.

W. J. MACKENSEN,
Naturalist.

Yardley, Penna.

Silent Crows.

How to Make Them Really Useful.

BY HOLLISTER SAGE.

[The warning against crows cannot be sounded too loud or too often.—Editor.]

It is out of season for corn-planting, but not for scarecrows. No scarecrow is so useful as a dead crow properly prepared. There are reasons why crows should be shot in winter instead of spring. The humane reason is that sometimes a nest full of young birds starve to death. A crow shot in corn-planting

time is hung up limp, soon decays and is of no use. Killed in winter he may be dried with wings spread to make an active, menacing scare of real efficiency for two years.

First wind a strong wire around a chip of wood and then force wire through the bird from the breast up so that it comes out of the back at a point where he will balance and swing naturally. Next lay the bird upon his back on a bench or floor, wings spread widely, and place weights upon them so they will remain spread until dry. After a week, hang up the scarecrow in the corn-crib to dry while the weather is cold and clear.

In spring make a loop of the wire six inches above the crow's back and suspend him by a strong cord to a twelve-foot pole leaning at an angle of 45 degrees. If he does not balance and pitch and dive in the wind, push a few nails into one end or the other to restore his balance.

Commander of Trapshooters' Army.

GENL. T. E. DOREMUS.

Being President of the Interstate Association for the Encouragement of Trapshooting is a position that few men could fill, and few still could be elected to. The election of T. E. Doremus, of Wilmington, Del., to head the organization for the second time proves his ability.

The Interstate Association—as it is more generally known—has a following of some 600,000 trapshooters and is one of the most important sporting bodies in existence. If you are in doubt as to the reliability of this assertion just wade through these figures.

Seven hundred and thirty-seven trapshooting clubs were organized in 1916.

Trapshooting has averaged more than 50,000 new devotees each year for nearly a decade.

Trapshooting is the fastest growing sport in the United States and Canada.

These are but a few of the many reasons why the Interstate Association is such an important organization. The Interstate, in promoting trapshooting, conducts business somewhat on the lines

of the Amateur Athletic Union in granting sanctions to conduct tournaments. These registered tournaments are aided in a financial way—to the extent of \$25,000 yearly. There were more than 500 registered tournaments in 1916, in which some 16,000 different trapshooters contested, and in which nearly 7,000,000 targets were thrown. Naturally the same number of shells were fired.

Through the Interstate Association these tournaments are managed, records



Genl. T. E. Doremus.

maintained of all shooters, and the averages published each year. The Grand American Trapshooting handicap tournament is just as big an event in its way as the World's Series is in baseball—attracting upwards of 1,000 contestants who defray their own expenses to shoot. The expense incurred in handling the Grand American runs more than \$500,000—which compares favorably with the amount of money spent on the world's series.

It was Mr. Doremus who suggested the holding of the State championship for amateurs, and the subsequent idea that the State champions meet during the week of the Grand American tourna-

ment and shoot for the National Amateur title. This event is now on a par with the Grand American Handicap, and in a few years it will be the greatest single event in trapdom.

Before the Interstate Association came into existence there were no standard rules for the sport—every club made its own, which caused no end of confusion when there was a dual club shoot.

PETER P. CARNEY,

Editor of National Sports Syndicate.

The Game Dinner of the Game Conservation Society.

The second annual game dinner of the Game Conservation Society at the Hotel Astor, N. Y., December 21, 1916, was a great success. Many distinguished sportsmen and State game officers were present. At the guest table were the three commissioners, Hons. Wm. C. Adams, George H. Graham and Arthur L. Millet, of Massachusetts; Hon. J. W. Titcomb, game commissioner of Vermont; Hon. Jno. N. Crampton, Superintendent of the Connecticut Commission; Mr. A. S. Houghton, Secretary of the New York Conservation Commission; Professor T. Gilbert Pearson, Secretary of the National Association of Audubon Societies; Dr. H. K. Job, director of the Department of Applied Ornithology of the Audubon Society; Wm. S. Haskell, Vice-President of the American Game Protective Association; R. A. Chiles, of Mt. Sterling, Ky.; Dr. Robert T. Morris, New York. A. A. Hill, Vice-President of the Game Conservation Society, presided. Professor Pearson acted as toastmaster.

The dinner was faultlessly served and many expressed surprise at the fact that the second game dinner was better than the first, since it seemed impossible to improve on the feast served a year ago. Everything from the Cotuit oysters and the Lake Champlain ice fish (intended by the chef, no doubt, to make the Massachusetts and Vermont guests feel at home) to the pheasant en turban and the roast mallard was perfectly served and the Hotel Astor may claim the credit of

servng the best game dinner ever served in New York since it became legal to eat game in a public house.

Mr. Hill made a short address of welcome and read a short report of the important work of the Society during the past year. Preliminary reports coming to the census, he said, indicated that members of the Society produced over a million more game birds than last season.

Mr. Titcomb delivered an interesting address on the propagation of game fish which was illustrated with some remark-

Menu	
	Cotuit Oyster
Velouté of Game, Grand Veneur	
Olives	Celery Radishes Salted Nuts
Lake Champlain Ice Fish Saute, Bresilienne	
Potatoes Parmentier	
Venison piqué à la Russe	
Brussels Sprouts with Chestnuts	
Nouilles à la Polonaise	
Pheasant en Turban, Carême	
Roast Mallard Duck à la Rouanaise	
Wild Rice Bar le Duc	
Fruit Salad	
Bombe Mireille	
Petits Fours	
Café Noir	
GAME DINNER OF THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY	HOTEL ASTOR THURSDAY, DEC. 21, 1916

able pictures on the screen. Dr. Job said a few words praising the work of the Game Conservation Society and its publication, *The Game Breeder*, and described his work in the propagation of wild birds. His moving pictures of wild ducks, geese, snipe and other game birds and his interesting talk about the abundant game delighted his audience and received repeated applause.

Mr. Haskell spoke with enthusiasm about the new treaty with Canada intended to preserve migratory birds and members of the Society were much interested in hearing about what had been

accomplished and about the legislation needed to carry the convention into effect. Mr. Chiles again delighted the members with his stories of game breeding and Dr. Morris said a few words praising the work of the Society and expressing his pleasure and approval of the meeting.

Although some of the Job pictures were omitted in order to shorten the program, it was midnight before anyone seemed to realize it excepting the toastmaster, who said he believed it was time to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned without hearing from Mr. Graham, who was to have spoken about Ponds and Swamps—How to Utilize Them. Many members expressed regret that it seemed necessary to shorten the program.

LITERATURE.

THE BIRD BOOK. Illustrating in natural colors more than seven hundred North American birds; also several hundred photographs of their nests and eggs. By Chester A. Reed. Doubleday, Page & Co. 1915. Price \$3.00 net.

A reader of *The Game Breeder* recently wrote that he had a large collection of bird eggs; that the labels had been removed and he wished to know if there was any book about bird eggs which would enable him to identify his eggs. It occurred to the writer that Mr. Reed's book was the only one available which contained any number of egg pictures with descriptions of their markings and color. Photographs of eggs are reproduced on nearly all of the 450 pages, most of which also are illustrated with color pictures and brief descriptions of the birds and their habitat. Some of the photographs of birds and nests which are scattered through the book are excellent. The woodcock on her nest, page 141, is a beautiful picture well worth framing. There are many other full page photographs which add much to the value of the work. "The Osprey Leaving Nest," "The Loggerhead Shrike and Nest" and many other pages are remarkable bird portraits from life.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS OF LONG ISLAND AND THEIR PLEASURE CLUBS Edition of 1916. Published by Thompson & Watson, N. Y. This is a handsome book, containing lists of prominent Long Island people and their clubs. There is also a big road map of Long Island which should be valuable to automobile owners. Besides being a social directory of the Long Island people, the book contains much about the Long Island town and country clubs, including those devoted to yachting, golf, tennis, shooting, fishing, etc. Although many shooting clubs are referred to and listed, there are quite a number which have been omitted—the Suffolk Club, the Flanders Club and others which are interested in shooting and fishing should have a place. The book is printed on heavy paper and many of the advertisements it contains are handsomely illustrated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor *Game Breeder*:

You are to be congratulated on the faultless manner in which the game dinner moved off. I enjoyed every minute of it, and had a most delightful time. *The Game Breeder* grows better and better. I enclose my subscription.

H. K. JOB.

West Haven, Conn.

[We appreciate the endorsement of the magazine, sent by the author of the excellent book, "Propagation of wild Birds." We have frequent orders for the book and rapidly it is taking its place as "the best seller."—Editor]

There are 4,108 active trapshooting clubs in the United States.

There are 31 trapshooting leagues in various parts of this country.

One hundred and nineteen golf and country clubs have installed trapshooting equipment.

Thirty trapshooting clubs have been formed among the employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company—and fully that many more on the other railroads in the United States.

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THE OPEN SEASON.

The more we consider the matter the more we become convinced that "there is a pleasure in the pathless woods" after game which is far more delightful to the eye and gratifying to the soul than the pursuit of game laws in the legislative halls. We have positively declined to appear before legislative committees and to enter the lobby. Anyone can put us down for a good shoot and a good game dinner and we will agree to shoot a little at the traps during the dinner hour and also when game is not in season provided the traps be kept in readiness and there be plenty of ammunition in the gun room, as there usually is at all well conducted modern game clubs and game breeding associations.

The quail shooting is very good on many fields where we can shoot without fear of the police during January and February. We expect to bring home a lot of birds and to have them broiled for breakfast. We rejoice that since the "Happy Boots Wilson" case we can come home with our quail without going to jail and now we are eager to take the field. Those who want more game laws and who delight in the sport of the lobby may go north or east or west to their State Capitols and recite their little pieces beginning "Where are the buffalo and wild pigeon, etc.?" We prefer our vacation with the setters and the gun in

the southern fields, where the roar of the covey is far more pleasing than the roar of the more game law oratory in the legislative committee room.

Each to his taste! The field and the lobby both are open in February!

QUAIL ON LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

The open winter and absence of snow in Southern New York and some other parts of the country have been very favorable to the quail and other birds which are winter residents. We have excellent reports about the quail on Long Island and the shooting promises to be very good next season not only on the club grounds, where the birds always are plentiful, because it pays to keep them so, but also on free territory where the birds occur by reason of their importation and breeding by the preserve owners.

A rumor was abroad recently that another attempt would be made to prohibit shooting the quail on Long Island and to create one more "food restriction" preventing their increase and, in fact, preventing any one from looking after the birds properly.

The quail occur on Long Island in good numbers because they were purchased and introduced by sportsmen and they are properly looked after, because it pays to do so. Shooting is not prohibited. In fact, always, it is quite lively.

The writer has purchased and liberated several hundred quail on Long Island and is perfectly familiar with the conditions there.

There is a large population on Long Island, especially in the summer, when the coast cottages are occupied. There are here, as elsewhere, many gunners who seem to be unaware that there are laws protecting doves at all times and the quail and other game at certain seasons. There are many foxes, hawks, crows, snakes and other enemies of game on Long Island. There are many dogs, cats and rats. Any naturalist familiar with the conditions on Long Island would advise the State to encourage the people to look after and protect the birds and by no means to prohibit such industry.

Darwin said long ago that if shooting

were prohibited in England there would be fewer birds than at present, although hundreds of thousands of birds are shot annually. Any one with ordinary common sense easily can understand that if shooting be prohibited on Long Island there will be fewer quail than at present, although the sport has been excellent for many years and will remain so if people who have no interest in Long Island and know nothing about conditions there can be induced to conduct their mischief-making industry elsewhere.

ROCKING-CHAIR SPORT.

We recently read the following statement about sport in Ohio said to have been made by the President of the Board having charge of the game: "The fish and game interests of Ohio are being kept in a very prosperous condition under the care of a special committee of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture."

The wild turkey, once abundant in Ohio has become extinct except on one game farm. The principal and practically the only game bird for Ohio sportsmen is the bobwhite quail. The area for duck shooting is very limited and we have been told that motorboats and riparian residents have sadly interfered with the duck shooting which once was good on the canal reservoirs. Bowwhite has been on the song bird list for some time. We are told that the dove, also, has been placed on this list; the dove is the second best game bird in Ohio. Recently a little pheasant breeding has started and we believe those who own pheasants can shoot them without being arrested.

When we recall the days when we found it an easy matter to bag twenty or thirty brace of quail in a day in Ohio, with a few doves, ruffed grouse and woodcock and an occasional wild turkey for good measure, it does not seem to us that the practical prohibition of sport which now exists is all that could be desired, or all that easily could be accomplished by those who prefer the annual pursuit of "more game" to the annual pursuit of "more game laws."

The kind of sport now enjoyed in Ohio seems to us to be that of the nimrod who enjoys the pipe and the rocking chair. We can hardly imagine any one paying a high non-resident licensee fee to try the shooting in Ohio.

Possibly the game conditions are considered fine from the point of view of the farmer who is glad there is nothing to tempt trespassers.

NEW YORK NONSENSE.

All persons, including State Game Officers, should read the quotation from the excellent report of the Massachusetts Commissioners of Fish and Game printed on another page.

"The policy of the Commission has been to encourage in every possible way the propagation of game birds."

Permits are issued "upon request" and without charge to "any person, firm or corporation" to propagate *any species* of deer, elk, pheasants, quail, partridge, geese, wild ducks or squirrels for sale, exchange or to be given away.

The Commission well says: "Such work contributes to the public welfare."

How far behind the times New York seems to be when compared with Massachusetts and many other States which encourage the profitable production of highly desirable foods!

A large amount of money is expended annually in the effort to save the game in New York from extinction, but it is deemed necessary to charge the producer \$5.00 for a license and to arrest him if he sells any quail, grouse or other game birds he may produce excepting only two common species of wild ducks and pheasants.

The people of the more enlightened states must be amused at the nonsense in New York; those who breed an abundance of game for sale as food are becoming more and more disgusted and indignant that they can not send their food to the best market. We have a large mail on this subject, especially from the West and from parts of New England.

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Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 3 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

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150 Nassau Street

New York City

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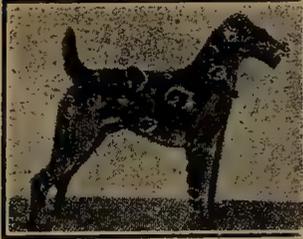
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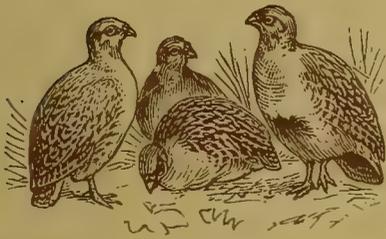
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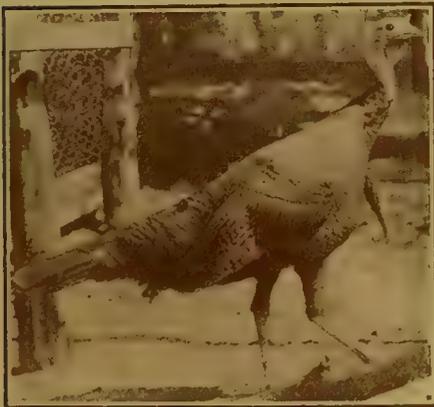
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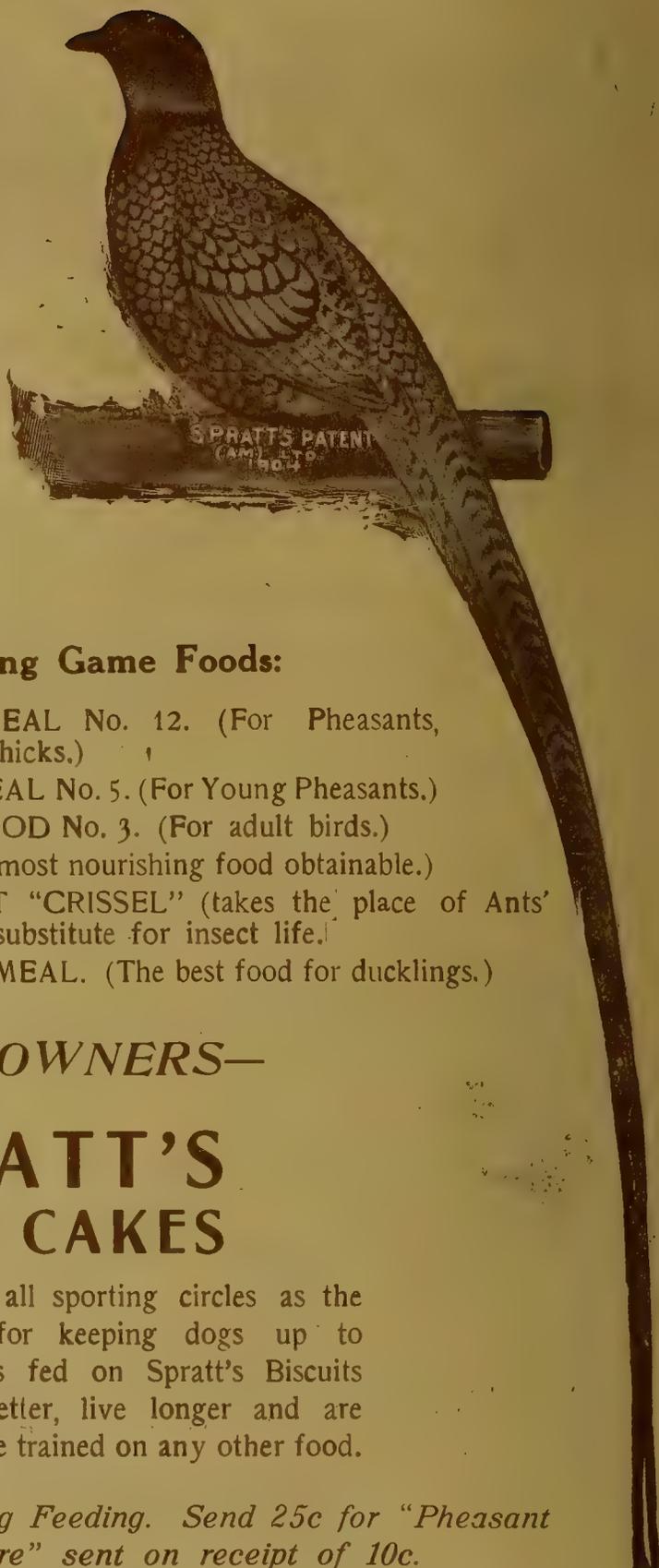
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54,669

THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. X.

MARCH, 1917

No. 6

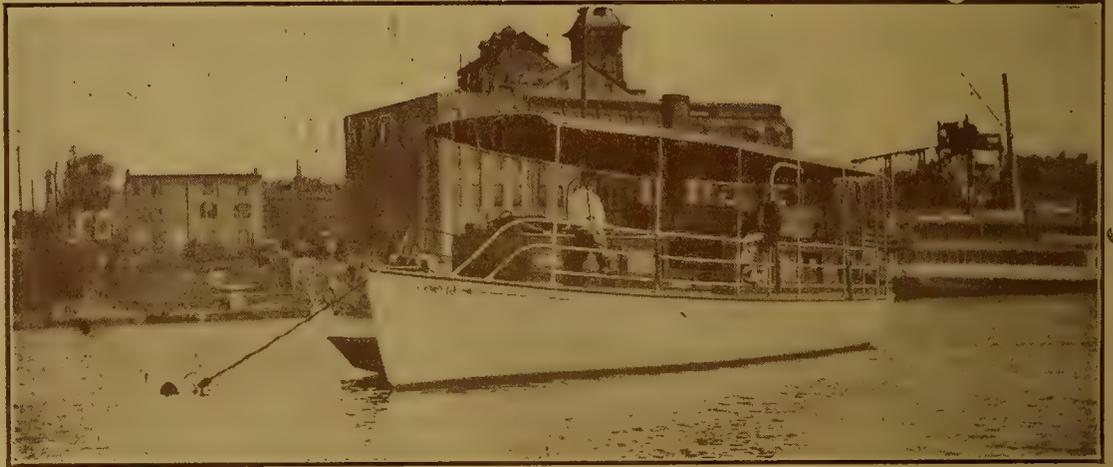
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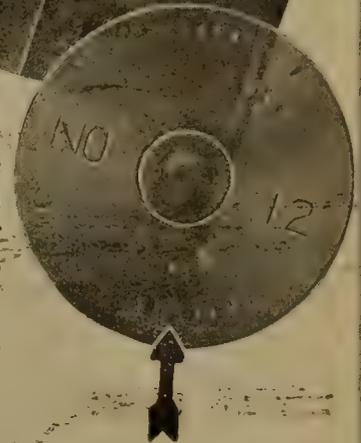
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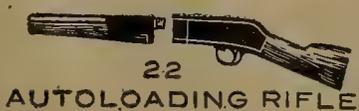
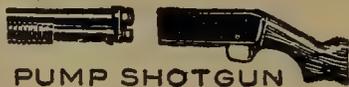
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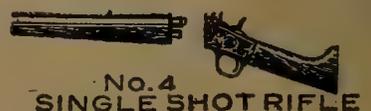
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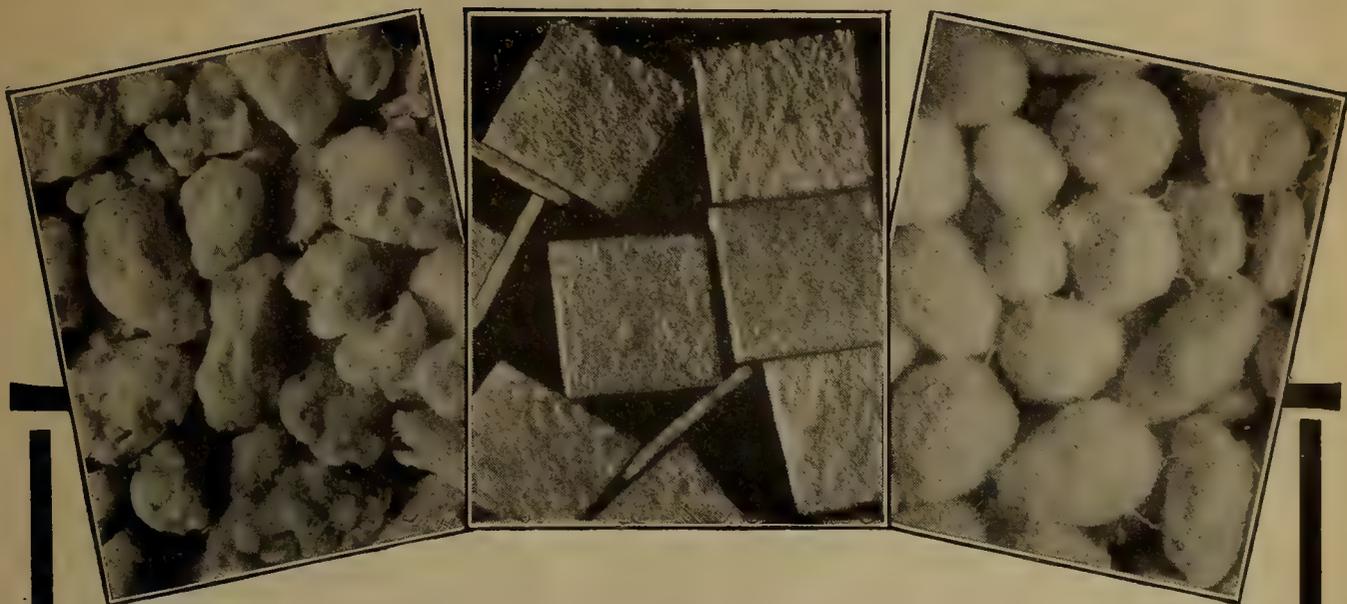
The Small Arms Firing Manual of the United States Army, developed by trained men with years of experience to back up their opinions, advocates cleaning from the breech, as shown in the extract reproduced in the upper part of this advertisement.

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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME X

MARCH, 1917

NUMBER 6



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

New Bills in Connecticut.

Mr. G. H. Scranton sends two bills which are approved by the Connecticut Fish and Game Protective Association.

1. A bill to provide for the licensing and regulation of cats; fee, 25 cents. Any cat without a metal license tag may be destroyed at any time when found on premises other than that of the owner.

2. A bill fixing the open season for hares and rabbits (excepting Belgian or German hares). October 7 to November 24, both inclusive.

There can be no doubt that cats are a great menace to game, and it is to be hoped the new law will reduce the numbers of these animals. We imagine even the cat with a tag on it may be in jeopardy if it encounters a game keepers' dog or traps, and we would not insure it against the gun if the cat should be observed taking young pheasants, unless the tag be a very big one and easily seen.

We have always enjoyed rabbit shooting on the snow and often the rabbits are not at their best in early October if the weather remains warm. The proposed law probably will not affect rabbits and hares owned by clubs and preserve owners, since the clubs now make their own bag and season limits and laws relating to public game do not apply, or, at least, they should not be applied to game produced by industry and owned by the producer.

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Maine Novelties.

A charming lot of game law novelties is pending in the Maine Legislature. There is a bill to regulate fishing in Big Jim pond, west of B. K. P.; a bill to

license trappers; a bill prohibiting fishing in the brook flowing into Hot Hole Pond, for three years; a bill amending the act relating to the taking of suckers, eels and hornpouts. There are bills regulating the fishing in Ross Pond; to prohibit plug fishing in Rangeley Lake; to allow hunting on Sunday; to regulate fishing in Walton's Mill Pond; to prevent bathing in Varnum's Pond so long as the water is used for domestic purposes in any village (a most laudable measure); to regulate the taking of smelts, minnows, white fish and cusk; to make it unlawful to catch more than five pounds of fish in Big Jim, "except in case the first fish caught weighs more than 5 pounds." If the second fish runs the catch over five pounds it also may be "carried away"; to regulate the transportation of fish under special tag; regulating fishing through the ice in Unity Pond; to amend the law relating to cusk; to provide a bounty on bears, etc., etc.

There are many more interesting measures listed in *Maine Woods* — so many, in fact, that one might well imagine the population had no other occupation but sketching new game laws. It would appear, however, that architectural enterprise has not been entirely abandoned, since the same issue of *Maine Woods* we are told that, "the building occupied last summer as a candy shop and recently purchased by A. L. Oakes has been sawed apart and is now ready to be moved to the head of Haley Pond, where it will be made into a dwelling house. There appears to be no new law regulating the shooting and fishing on Haley's Pond this year, possibly be-

cause the inhabitants are interested in watching the transformation of the candy shop.

We were told that a few hundred game laws were repealed, at one fell swoop, a few years ago, in Maine, but it seems likely the books will soon be filled up again. How would it do for the Maine people to give some attention to game breeding? It would be an easy matter to produce an abundance of game for the people to eat. The food will be found cheaper than game laws, which really appear to be quite expensive when the printing, salaries, etc., are taken into account. We would suggest that the Maine sportsmen and legislators study the Massachusetts game breeders' law. Hundreds of citizens in Massachusetts now produce game profitably without fear of the police.

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Maine Breeders' Bill.

The following proposed law for Maine is from *Maine Woods*:

Chick of Kennebec—Act amending Section 5 of Chapter 33 of the Revised Statutes so that the commissioners of inland fisheries and game may issue permits to any person, firm or corporation to engage in propagating birds, game or fur-bearing animals, under regulations prescribed by the commission. It is made legal to fence in land of not more than 25 acres, and an annual fee of \$10 is to be paid.

Why charge \$10 for the right to produce food on a farm? Massachusetts charges nothing for a license to produce any species of game, and the law is popular. Vermont charges \$2.00, which is \$2.00 too much. New York charges \$5.00, which is \$5.00 too much. If it is desirable to permit the people to produce game by industry, such industry should not be penalized. Ohio charges 50 cents. This might be regarded as a fair charge for a permit, so long as permits are deemed necessary.

The idea of regulating the size of the pasture is probably the most original absurdity of all the many novelties which have appeared in game breeders' enactments, with the exception of the "otherwise than by shooting" nonsense, which required duck breeders to kill their wild ducks with the hatchet. This was in the law books of New York for a year.

Why should a deer farmer or a pheasant or duck farmer be required to use only part of his land for food production when it is well known that game on small areas is subject to diseases?

Why not entitle the act, an act to encourage diseases among deer and game birds?

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The Game and The Farmer.

Under the heading, "Farmer's Talk to Farmers," the Norwich (Connecticut) *Bulletin* publishes a long article about the "Deer Question and the Farmer." The writer denounces the game laws in general and objects "as emphatically as I know how to having my farm made a breeding place and protected compound for rabbits and deer; against being compelled to feed them for a long 'closed season,' and then have my fields roamed over and my fences broken down and my gates left open by a horde of so-called hunters from some other part of the country in the 'open season.'"

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Deer Farming.

The farmer, above quoted, seems to be entirely unaware that game farming recently has been made a legal industry in Connecticut. In other states many men, women and boys now breed game profitably. Deer are easily reared in enclosures and many ruffed grouse, quail and pheasant can be bred for sport and for profit on the same ground. Many marshy places and small ponds are now used for wild duck breeding, and the ducks will stay home and produce plenty of eggs if they be properly looked after. We suggest that the Norwich *Bulletin* might tell the farmers what they can do under game breeders' laws. The Game Breeder will tell them how to do it.

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Brer Rabbit.

The Connecticut farmer says farther "If there is any animal pest which deserves protection less than another, it is the common cotton-tail rabbit—the bean-eating, cabbage-destroying, corn-nibbling, tree-barking rabbit. It would be quite as sensible to 'protect' the mosquito or the bald-faced hornet. No doubt they

would be protected if they were big enough to make targets."

It cannot be denied that the farmer should not be required to entertain state "pests" when found injuring his crops, and many states now permit him to destroy them, as he often did, without waiting for the permission. In an old case in Massachusetts it was decided the farmer had the right to defend his property.

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Farmers and Sportsmen.

When farmers and sportsmen work together, as they can under the new game breeders' laws, all trouble between the classes easily is avoided. The sportsmen pay for the right to produce and shoot game and pay damages if any harm is done by the game or by the shooters. There are many hundreds of thousands of acres in America, including many small farms, where the farmers have all their taxes paid by sportsmen, and also have all the game they want to shoot and to eat. We have described some of these places and shall describe others later.

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Hon. J. W. Titcomb.

We have just learned, with much satisfaction, that Hon. John W. Titcomb, the State Game Commissioner of Vermont, has been appointed Fish Commissioner of New York. Mr. Titcomb was for some time with the National Bureau of Fisheries, and he is one of the leading fish culturists in the United States. He long has been much interested in the "more game" movement, and Vermont was one of the first states to enact a game breeders' law permitting the breeding of all species of game. Mr. Titcomb is a member of the Game Conservation Society and was a guest of the society at its last game dinner, when he delivered an address which is printed in this issue.

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Protective Association Conference.

The American Game Protective Association announces its third annual conference, to be held March 13 and 14 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York. There will be a dinner on the evening of the 14th. Many matters of interest to game breeders will be discussed, and

several members of the Game Conservation Society have been invited to participate. The program, we are told, is not completed, but it is possible to announce the two most attractive features: Mr. E. A. McIlhenney, of Louisiana, will show at the dinner a wonderful series of films of the Wild Life of the Louisiana Coast. Mr. William L. Finley will present a new set of films, some of them showing the mammals of Yellowstone Park.

We hope many members of The Game Conservation Society will attend the meeting and dinner. Last year the announcement reached us too late for insertion in *The Game Breeder*.

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Removal of Heywood Game Farm.

The Norwich (Conn.) *Bulletin* announces that John Heywood has purchased two farms, aggregating 225 acres, in the Gary district, and next year, when the farms are made ready for game breeding, Mr. Heywood will move from Gardner, Mass., where he now has one of the most prosperous game farms in the United States.

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Ohio Quail.

It seems likely the quail will remain on the song-bird list in Ohio. Deer and wild turkeys and the prairie grouse are extinct; the ruffed grouse is about gone in most parts of the state where it occurred. There is very little good duck shooting, excepting on a few marshes owned by clubs. Since Ohio hotel keepers were arrested, not long ago, for serving some wild ducks reared by industry in Kentucky, it seems likely the people of Ohio must go without game to eat and the sportsmen can dine on clay-pigeons.

Recently it was made legal to breed pheasants, and it may be the native game will become extinct and that those who breed pheasants will have some shooting. Why not permit the breeding and saving and the shooting and serving of all species of game?

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More Rabbits.

More cotton-tail rabbits, the *New York Herald* says, were found and put

in the game bag in New Jersey during the last season than in any shooting season in many years, but the cry has gone up all over the state for "more rabbits." Cotton-tails have shown they are the most popular of the small upland game, and the New Jersey Fish and Game Commission purposes to rise to the demand.

The rabbit warrens in the State Game Farm have taken on new importance, and will be one of the largest features of the propagation work. Three thousand rabbits were purchased in New Mexico and many have been received in good condition at the game farm.

Good News From Rhode Island.

Editor of The Game Breeder:

The following is from the annual report of the Bird Commissioners of Rhode Island. Its recognition of Game Breeding as one of the best means of replenishing the supply of upland game birds so as to give future opportunities for sport in this state, is interesting.

Very truly and fraternally yours,
Providence, R. I. W. McNEILIS.

Associate Editor Rod and Gun Corner of
the Providence Tribune.

After telling of the alarming scarcity of quail and partridge noted during the past hunting season, the report suggests methods of improving the situation as follows:

"The time has come when we can no longer depend on natural conditions to replenish the exhausted supply of wild game, to say nothing of restoring its former abundance. The only solution of this problem is by artificial propagation. The changed conditions must be met by new methods."

The report then mentions one method, game sanctuaries in which the activities of predatory animals are prevented, and "while this state has not the area to establish large reservations, something could be done in this direction if suitable legal action could be secured."

The report continues: "Besides this means of propagating game there is the method of intensive rearing of wild birds and other game such as domestic animals are raised. Very successful experi-

ments have been carried on in other states which show that with proper knowledge and skill wild birds may be raised in large numbers. None of this work has been undertaken in this state for the reason that our laws do not permit it. Possession of game during the breeding season is strictly prohibited. It is, therefore, impossible for any person in this state to make an effort to increase the supply of game by artificial means, and this applies to the commissioners as well as to other citizens. It would be very desirable if suitable laws could be enacted which would authorize the breeding of game. Other states have such laws and excellent results have followed. It would be necessary to surround such permission with sufficient restrictions and safeguards to prevent its abuse."

The commissioners are now little more than a special police organization for the enforcement of game laws. The enactment of these laws would enable them also to become conservators and propagators of game. We recommend that these laws be enacted to give the commissioners of birds, either by their own work or by the issuing of permits to citizens of the state, to engage in the rearing of game animals, both birds and other species.

A number of our members have shown an interest in the breeding of prairie grouse and sharp-tails and these birds and their eggs should be sold by the dealers before long. There is more money to be made in a good grouse ranch than in any other branch of the game breeders' industry. The birds can be reared much cheaper than pheasants can be and both birds and eggs will sell readily in large lots at better prices than can be obtained for pheasants and their eggs, although these prices are higher than was ever before known.

TIME WASTED.

"Dinah, did you wash the fish before you baked it?"

"Law, ma'am, what's de use ob washin' er fish what's lived all his life in de water?"—Philadelphia Leader.

THE PROPAGATION OF GAME FISHES.

An After Dinner Talk to The Game Conservation Society, at Hotel Astor, New York City.

J. W. TITCOMB.

I feel highly honored to be invited to address the members of a Society the aim of which is to produce more game. As the "proof of the pudding is in the eating," so have you at this banquet furnished proof that your society has accomplished results. The subject upon which I have been requested to talk may be regarded by many as a dry one, notwithstanding the fact that it relates to aquatic life. Your invitation indicates that you are interested not only in "more game," but also in "more game fish." With so much talent to address you I shall be brief, touching only the high places.

The intensive cultivation of fishes in ponds was practiced a great many centuries ago. The manipulation of fishes to obtain their eggs and milt is not so old, but has been so perfected during the past century that it is only a matter of finance as to the numbers of many desirable game fishes which may be produced.

The conservation of fishes by artificial propagation attracted the attention of States and of the Federal Government long before the conservation of game was seriously thought of, and, perhaps, this accounts for the fact that more rapid strides have been made, and that there has been more general interest in the propagation of fishes than in the propagation of game. Then, too, nature has been more lavish with reference to the productivity of fishes, as compared with terrestrial animals. For example, a trout or salmon may lay anywhere from 100 to 5,000 eggs annually; a black blass from 2,000 to 10,000 eggs, and more than nine million eggs have been counted from one codfish.

On the theory that in nature like produces like, none of these fishes is expected to reproduce more than one of its

kind of service until maturity, and all the rest of them are wasted. To illustrate more specifically how this waste occurs, let us follow the spawning habits of the brook trout.

Along the latter part of the summer the native trout gather in schools. Some of them spawn around the shores of ponds inhabited by them, but more often they frequent the streams tributary to such ponds. If living in a stream, they will ascend to its source or into small spring fed tributaries. They usually run on high water following a heavy rain. Sometimes they begin to school in August, but they seldom if ever spawn before the latter part of September, and the spawning season extends into November and December, or sometimes even later. Often when spawning in ponds they do not appear on the beds until the ice has formed. The actual time of spawning is determined by the temperature of the water, the native trout spawning on a falling temperature.

Almost all, if not quite all, the species of fish are guided in the actual time of spawning by the temperature of the water, the "spring spawners," like the rainbow trout, spawning on a rising temperature, while the "fall spawners," as we call them, instinctively seek the spawning beds as the temperature of the water drops with approaching cold weather of autumn.

Let us follow one pair of trout after they have left the pond and are ready to spawn. Having ascended the stream, they finally select a pool with a gravelly bottom, and there conduct their courtship. The male fights off all intruders and usually has a number of encounters with other male trout. As the season approaches when the water temperature is favorable, the fish "make tracks" as it is called by rubbing over the gravel

bottom and by that action clearing off the sediment. Each fish takes part in the work and as they work close together a circular area is finally cleaned, in diameter equal to the length of the larger fish, or a little more. Here, finally, the female rubs over the nest thus formed, quivering as she goes, and expels some eggs. The male immediately follows, going through the same motions and expels some milt—this is a milky white substance which colors the water. This operation of the male and female is repeated until the female has laid all the eggs that she has.

The fertilization of fish eggs under natural conditions may be likened to the fertilization of flowers. The eggs correspond to the seeds of plants and the milt of the male corresponds to the pollen. In the fertilization of flowers, as you know, the wind and various insects act as carrying agents to transmit the pollen to the seed, while with the fish, the water is the only agent which carries the milt or fertilizing power of the male to the eggs.

Having deposited and fertilized the eggs, this pair of fish depart—never to return. There may be other fish around waiting to eat the eggs but there also may be another pair of trout which select the pool with the same nest as spawning bed. While clearing this off they eat any eggs which are thus upturned and go through the same performance as the first pair. This operation may be repeated by half a dozen different pairs of trout. Finally some eggs are left for the water to care for, a prey to all the minor aquatic animal life as well as any fishes which the water contains.

I have caught twenty-one trout hanging around the spawning bed of a pair, evidently waiting for the latter to leave in order that they might eat their eggs. Most of these trout were males but a few of them were "spent" females. It is not uncommon to catch suckers on the spawning beds of trout with trout eggs in their stomachs. The caddis larvae—worms whose homes are composed of small pebbles or of particles of wood so ingenuously constructed as to resemble

pieces of decaying sticks, are fond of feeding upon the eggs as well as upon the fry before the sac is absorbed. It requires from 75 to 200 days for trout eggs to hatch, the actual time depending upon the temperature of the water. Without any protection it is little wonder if only one egg hatches and produces one mature fish.

Taking advantage of the knowledge of the spawning habits of the fish, the fish culturist by trapping or netting them a short time before they are ready to spawn and holding them until ripe is able to save 99% of eggs which otherwise would float away. This midwifery is accomplished by a gentle pressure along the abdomen expelling the eggs into a pan containing no water. The milt of the male is then expelled in direct contact with the eggs in the pan. Thus almost complete fertilization is accomplished. The eggs are then placed on trays in a gentle current of water and protected until they hatch, until the sac is absorbed or as much longer as the facilities of the fish culturist permit.

This knowledge of the spawning habits of the trout which has led the fish culturist to conserve the eggs which would naturally go to waste may be applied to almost all kinds of fishes, variations as to small details in manipulation and hatchery equipment, being effected to suit the requirements of each species.

With the commercial fishes, like the shad and the cod, or the wall-eyed pike and white fish of the Great Lakes, the artificial propagation is more a matter of conservation than is that of the trout and allied species which are returned alive to the waters after the spawn has been taken.

In the propagation of the commercial species just mentioned and of many others, spawn takers are placed aboard the boats of the fishermen and merely take the eggs of such fish as are caught for the market in ripe or mature condition as to spawn. For example, the roe of the shad, which you consider a luxury on your table, is the unripe spawn of the shad. Only a very small proportion of the shad which are taken in the nets

are ripe and it is only the eggs of the ripe fish which are made use of in the hatchery.

(The portion of the talk, relating to the trout was illustrated with lantern slides of a trout spawning bed, trout eggs and fry in various stages of development as they appear in the water, methods of trapping fish, taking and fertilizing eggs, etc.)

The black bass and allied species do not submit to manipulation for taking and fertilizing their eggs, but fortunately a very large percentage of the eggs are fertilized when the spawning functions are permitted to occur naturally, and the parent fish care for and protect the young until the latter are free swimmers. The cultivation of these fishes, therefore, consists in providing ponds which shall give to the maximum number of breeding fish and their young all the essential conditions of a natural environment, while at the same time protecting them from their enemies and holding them under control.

Unlike the trout, the male black bass makes the nest, leads the female to it after which they expel their eggs and milt simultaneously. Then the female takes her departure. The male stands guard over the nest until the eggs have hatched and after a few days the fry begin to arise, spread out, settle back on the beds at night, spread out a little more the next day, settle back on the beds at night, and after a few days the sac is absorbed and they scatter around the shores and seek their own food. Then, the old male either goes to work and gets another wife and raises another brood, or joins his companions in the lake. The chief obstacle to a large production of young bass is the fact that the spawning period may extend over a month or six weeks and one nest of little fishes which has a three days start over an adjoining nest may, after it has attained the age of two or three weeks be able to exterminate all of the little fish which hatch a few days later. This cannibalism of the young bass where the little ones eat the smaller ones, is quite as pronounced as the cannibalism generally spoken of when we say that "the big

fish eat the little ones." By way of illustration, we may have 25 pairs of black bass in a pond of one or two acres in area. They may produce on an average 4,000 fry. This 100,000 fry, left to seek their own food, will devour each other and be devoured more or less by other enemies, but the reduction in numbers during three or four months in the summer is due very largely to the cannibalism among themselves, and if 10,000 fingerlings 3 inches in length are obtained from the 100,000 fry it will be a very good crop—in other words, it will be just as safe to remove 50,000 of the fry from the pond soon after they have been hatched and distribute them to other waters to fight their own way and still expect to obtain from the pond a crop of fingerlings equal in number to that which would have been obtained, provided all of the product of the 25 pairs of bass had been allowed to remain there and eat each other until they were three or four months old.

One of the most recent methods of obtaining young bass for stocking waters is by going to public ponds or lakes in which bass are not wanted. As you know, throughout New England and New York, a great many lakes have been stocked with bass which are not suitable for them, or to put it another way, are better suited to trout or salmon. Many of these lakes are being promoted for trout or salmon and in such waters bass may be taken at any time to good advantage. Taking advantage of the nesting habits, it is possible to put a cylindrical cloth screen around the nest while it is protected by the old bass, first driving away the old bass; then when the eggs hatch, the young of the same age may be removed and placed in some pond containing no fish whatever but in which there has been an intensive cultivation of the minute aquatic life upon which bass feed. Thus, great quantities of young bass may be obtained at comparatively small expense, and retained in small ponds, under control, until they have reached a suitable age for distribution to larger waters.

The aesthetic as well as the recreational features of angling alone are of

sufficient importance to warrant extensive fish cultural operations, but the longer I have been engaged in this work the more important it has appeared to me from purely economic viewpoints. In fact, as a servant of both state and federal governments, without personally sacrificing the aesthetic side, I have been forced to see and preach the economic side. This economic side applies just as truly to game fishes as to the so-called commercial fishes. If the busy man can enjoy the sport and recreative benefits of angling for game fishes near home, he can indulge his taste more frequently and avoid the fatigue of a long journey to some distant camp with attendant loss of time in travel and usual expense of such a trip.

One does not have to travel far from home to find waters suitable for such game fishes as trout or black bass and in the wilds of nature. Most country estates have sufficient water supply to feed an artificial pond and with few exceptions such water is suitable for either trout or bass, or possibly landlocked salmon.

In most instances the land which may be most economically flowed is not particularly valuable or productive. When there is no water flowing through one's property it often happens that an adjacent stream may be tapped or at comparatively small expense diverted with an intake so arranged that the maximum desired volume of water may be obtained in time of drought and regulated in times of freshet. It may be conveyed in an open ditch made to resemble a natural brook or if the topographic conditions prohibit this method, it may be piped a whole or a part of the way.

If a natural stream is available which is not subject to severe freshets, one which has comparatively little variation in flow, it may be meandered so as to produce on a given area double or treble the area of the original brook. The contour of the land will govern as to the amount of development of this sort. At small expense a series of pools may be constructed to resemble the natural pools on a forest stream. By natural pools I refer to those that are usually formed

by a fallen tree or a collection of debris or possibly by a few picturesque moss-clad boulders.

With the waters provided, the all important question to be decided is as to the kind of fish which will best thrive in them and produce the most food or game fish and preferably both in one or more species.

In the selection of a species best suited to the waters, maximum water temperature in summer and natural food supply are the two most important factors to be considered. Water temperature has first consideration because it is not practical to regulate the temperature to any great extent. In the planning of trout pools the area to which a trout stream may be safely extended either by meandering or in ponds is limited by the volume of water supply, as it may be effected by evaporation, etc.

Some waters contain more natural food than others of the same temperature and the higher the temperature the more rapid is the growth of aquatic life upon which fish feed as well as of the fish inhabiting such waters. The maximum temperature at times of minimum water supply determines whether the waters are suitable for trout or other salmonidae.

The natural conditions may often be improved by the introduction of a judicious selection of water plants on which various forms of minute aquatic animals live and breed, and these in turn furnish fish food. Suitable plants also afford refuge for the small fishes against the big ones.

I confess that I am an enthusiast on the cultivation of waters for the production of suitable food and game fishes. At the same time I do not advise anyone to incur much expense in the development of fisheries along the lines here suggested until a thorough investigation has been made. The proportion of disappointments and failures in the promotion of fish cultural enterprises is perhaps larger than in many lines of business, involving no more capital.

Subscribe to The Game Breeder, \$1.00 a year.

WILD CELERY.

BY W. L. MCATEE.

VALUE AS DUCK FOOD.

The names wild celery (*Vallisneria spiralis*) and canvasback duck have been closely associated in the annals of American sport. To a certain extent this association is justified, since the canvasback obtains about one-fourth of its food from this plant—a greater proportion than any other duck. However, the assertion that the flavor of the canvasback is superior to that of any other duck and that it depends on a diet of wild celery is not proved, to say the least. The scaups or bluebills and the redhead also are very fond of wild celery, and are fully as capable of getting the delicious buds as the canvasback. Several other ducks get more or less of this food, the writer finding that even the scoters on a Wisconsin lake in fall lived almost exclusively on it for the time. All parts of the plant are eaten by ducks, but the tender winter buds (fig. 6) and rootstocks are relished best. Wild celery buds can usually be obtained only by the diving ducks, such as the bluebills, redhead, canvasback, and scoters. The nondiving species, as the mallard, black duck, baldpate and the geese, get an occasional bud, but more often they feed upon the leaves.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT.

Wild celery (fig. 4) is a wholly submerged plant with long, flexible, ribbon-like leaves of light translucent green and of practically the same width (anywhere from one-fourth to three-fourths of an inch) from root to tip. Of course the leaves are narrowed near the tip and may be somewhat serrate or wavy margined there. But they are never expanded and the venation is peculiar. A leaf held up to the light displays numerous straight parallel fine veins running its whole length. There are, besides, one median and two lateral prominent veins connected at intervals by irregular cross veinlets. (See fig. 7.) Wild celery may be distinguished from eelgrass (*Zostera mar-*

ina), which lives in brackish or salt water, by the fact that its leaves grow in bundles from the rootstocks, while those of eelgrass arise singly and alternate on opposite sides of the stem. Pipewort (*Eriocaulon*), a fresh-water plant, often having ribbon-like leaves, may be recognized by the reticulation of the entire leaf into small cells by veins of nearly uniform size.

In certain stages some of the arrowheads (*Sagittaria*) are difficult to tell



Fig. 4.

from wild celery, though they usually have the end of the leaf expanded into a proper leaf blade or else quite pointed, neither of which characteristics is to be found in *Vallisneria*.

The flowers of wild celery, usually seen in July, are peculiar. The staminate flowers attached at the base of the plants shed pollen, which floats on the surface of the water and fertilizes the pistillate flower. The latter is attached to a long, slender, round stem, which



Fig. 5.

contracts into a spiral, drawing the flower under the water after fertilization. This spiral stem, bearing the flower or pod (fig. 4), distinguishes wild celery from the plants mentioned above. The seed pod into which the pollenized flower develops is straight or curved, a little slenderer than a common lead pencil, and from 3 to 6 inches long (fig. 5). It contains, embedded in a clear jelly, small dark seeds, in number about 50 to the inch. No such pod is borne by any other fresh-water plant.

DISTRIBUTION.

Wild celery occurs naturally from central Minnesota through the Great Lake region to northern Nova Scotia, and from eastern Kansas and eastern Texas east to the Atlantic coast (fig. 8). Like wild rice, it is of more or less local distribution, and consequently may be absent from considerable areas within its general range.

TRANSPLANTING WILD CHERRY.

While wild celery has not been transplanted so frequently as wild rice, yet it has been propagated often and in widely separated regions. (See Fig. 8.) It is no harder to transplant than wild rice and under proper conditions will undoubtedly grow anywhere in the United States.

Moreover, it can be propagated both by seeds and by winter buds, and the plant itself may be taken up and set out at almost any time. Floating fragments of the plant with a little of the rootstock attached have been picked up in mid-summer by the writer, and they have rooted and grown successfully. The prime requisites in propagating celery are



Fig. 6.

the same as in the case of rice; the buds, plants or seeds must not be allowed to dry or to ferment between gathering and planting. The seed pods (fig. 5) ripen from September to November and fall to the bottom. They are best collected (by net or rake) on days when the water



Fig. 7.

is least ruffled during the latter half of October and early November. The winter buds (fig. 6) may be collected at the same season, before the leaves have disappeared, by following the latter down and digging up the rootstocks and buds. Or the young plants just as they sprout in the spring may be taken up. Keep

them moist and cool until wanted for planting, as directed for wild rice. If they must be kept for some time, put them in open vessels of water in cold storage.

Where to plant.—Wild celery grows best on muddy bottoms in from 3½ to 6½ feet of fresh water, though it will grow also in sand and in both deeper and shallower water. A sluggish current suits it better than either stagnant or rapid water.

How to plant.—For sowing, the pods should be broken up (in water) into pieces about half an inch in length, which may be sown broadcast—not too thickly, as the plant spreads rapidly by rootstocks

and will soon make a dense growth. The winter buds or pieces of roots with tufts of leaves must be weighted to hold them to the bottom and enable them to take root. This may be accomplished by loosely threading several plants together and tying stones to them, or by embedding them in balls of clay. The broken seed pods also may be put into clay and dropped.

When to plant.—Where they are not likely to be covered by mud, the best time to sow the seed pods is in the fall. Winter buds collected in the fall should be kept in cold storage, and these, as well as young plants gathered in the spring, should be set out in May or June.



NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

BY OUR READERS.

Prize Quail.

Editor Game Breeder:

The quail you sent me as a prize are doing fine. I was afraid, at first, they might be Southern birds and would not stand this climate. But they just seem to enjoy the cold weather.

They were wild at first but they will come out of their coop now and eat while I feed them.

Iowa.

W. R. HIND.

[The birds shipped are Mexican quail. They were imported by Mackensen, of Yadley, Pennsylvania. We have introduced these southern birds in fair numbers as far north as New York and we found they did not suffer from climate. They bred nicely the first year. Some of the coveys were quite large and they afforded good shooting. We have been informed that the southern birds breed with their northern relatives and that the result is a gain in the size of the birds. We hope there will be many experiments by breeders this year in crossing the Mexican quail with the larger northern birds, and that records of the weight of the parent birds and the full grown young may be kept and published. It is high time for the quail breeders to breed quail abundantly and owning their birds they should be exempt from all "fool laws."—Editor.]

Peculiar Cause of Turkey's Death.

By H. C. BROWN.

Mrs. H. E. Winterink, of Charles City, Iowa, recently lost a splendid turkey through an unusual cause. The turkey had only recently been received, and was so wild that it refused to stay with the others to get its food. On the contrary, it went to the woods nearby, and was very wild for a few days. One day, however, it didn't seem to be in its usual health, and a bunch was observed in its neck. A few days later, the turkey died; and upon examination it was found that the bunch consisted of four burrs of burdock, matted together, which had lodged in the crop, and prevented the passage of food. The turkey had evidently been starved to eating burrs, because of its fear.

=

Foster Mothers.

Editor Game Breeder:

I notice that a number of the game breeders and game keepers use Rhode Island Reds for foster mothers in raising pheasants whereas in California the Japanese Silkies are used

for that purpose. Will you kindly write me what you think about this.

California.

E. K. MOULTON.

On most of the game farms and preserves where large numbers of pheasants are reared all species of hens are used. Often it is found difficult to get enough broody hens to set the eggs.

The game keepers prefer light hens to heavy ones and quiet hens which are far better than those which are nervous and bad sitters. We have used a great variety of hens gathered in a hurry from the farms for miles about the preserve and often we have been surprised that hens taken from a nest carried in a bag to a coop on the wagon and transferred to the pheasant hatchery house, should at once settle down and appear satisfied with a nest of pheasant eggs. Game keepers usually try the hens on nest eggs to see that they are broody before placing them on the pheasant eggs.

We have found that many varieties of common barnyard hens make good quiet sitters and foster mothers. Light weight hens which are found to be good on the nest and in the coop are kept over for a second season. A hen which breaks eggs is quickly removed and the eggs remaining are placed under a more quiet sitter. The percentage of eggs hatched under common barnyard hens, which are selected as far as possible on account of their light weight and quiet manners is good and most keepers on big game farms and preserves are well satisfied with the common hens gathered from the farms.

Japanese silkies are excellent foster mothers no doubt and some breeders have had good success with bantams, which are the best foster mothers for quail.

Rented Hens.

At some big preserves hens are rented from the farmers in the neighborhood and returned after rearing a brood of pheasants. The price paid is usually 25 cents per hen. I once saw a big lot of hens at the Rassaprague Club which were all tagged and ready to be returned to their numerous owners. The hens are gathered when they are broody and

sometimes only one or two sitting hens will be found at a place. At the Game Breeders' Association the keepers drove from one farm to another asking for broody hens and paid cash for them. After they had reared their broods they were sold in the market often for as much as they cost. Good foster mothers were selected and retained for another season.

Editor Game Breeder:

With regards to an article in The Game Breeder of January, 1917, relating to wild ducks hatching in trees, I wish to state I have been head gamekeeper on an estate in Ireland in the employ of Captain Charles George O'Callaghan, Ballinahinch, County Clare, Ireland, for eleven years, and there was a lake on the estate about one mile and a half long and the wild duck used to hatch in the crutches of the trees on the islands in the lake from 5 to 20 feet off the ground. I often had from 10 to 15 wild ducks hatching in this manner and no foxes could get to the islands and the young ducklings came down all safe as the fall does them no harm. I often had pheasants and wild duck lay their eggs in the same nest on the ground.

Connecticut. MICHAEL FLANNERY.

We hope the people in all of the States where it is not a crime to look after the quail profitably will give much of their time and attention to the breeding of our best game bird. These States soon should have an abundance of quail; the sportsmen should have good shooting during long open seasons; the people should have quail to eat. We predict there will be a rapid increase of quail during the coming year in all of the quail States and fortunately there are many where the quail is not on the song-bird list.

DEFINED.

Bix—I see there's a report from Holland that concrete bases for German cannon have been found there.

Dix—Don't believe a word you hear from Holland. The geography says it is a low, lying country.—Boston Transcript.



WILD DUCKS?

We printed the above picture of ducks on the cover of the January issue and asked our readers their opinion about the birds. We had already written the owner of the birds suggesting that his ducks appeared too heavy for sporting purposes and that they appeared not true to the type of wild mallards. The owner says the ducks are descended from wild mallards trapped in Iowa and we have no doubt he is sincere in believing they have not been crossed with other ducks. This, however, may have happened without his being aware of it if his ducks were permitted to fly about and visit other farms. They may, too, have been visited by other ducks without his knowledge.

Our readers have taken a great interest in the picture and our inquiry which accompanied it, many have written their opinions. Some of them are printed below:

It cannot be denied that thousands of ducks are owned by breeders and sporting clubs which are not true to type. We have seen many of these birds at various

shoots which were strong on the wing and afforded excellent marks. We have seen other birds which were too heavy and which did not fly as fast as is desirable. Many of the ducks owned by sportsmen in America are descended from English stock and it is well known that some of the English game farmers crossed their wild mallards with domesticated birds hoping to get larger birds and birds which could be handled easily. They have seen their mistake and for years the sportsmen have been trying to improve their stock by the introduction of wild blood. There is a big demand in America for fresh trapped mallards for the same purpose. These command better prices than the half-breeds but they are not so easy to handle and usually do not breed the first season.

Here are some of the letters about the ducks from widely separated points:

Editor Game Breeder:

Your valuable magazine reached my desk this morning and of course the first thing that caught my eye was the picture of some "mallards" on the front page. Also turned at once to page 111 as directed and noted with very

much interest what you had to say of the picture.

In the first place the birds have a slight resemblance to mallards. The markings are what I would term "fierce." The drakes have either too much white or two little white on their neck, all that are visible have too much white on their bodies. The females are equally as bad, as their markings are far from right. They have mallard blood in them without a doubt as the shape of their heads show this. I doubt very much whether any of them could fly at all. They are a very bad cross of some kind and resemble a bunch which the writer purchased from a man in Louisiana a year or so ago as "pure blood wild mallards, taken from my choice flock of breeders." After getting them we sold this bunch of choice breeders of his to a man for market purposes.

There are any number of this class of breeders in the country and as fast as they are proven unscrupulous they should be boycotted.

Sometimes a thoroughly reliable dealer will purchase stock from a man that appears to be alright in every way but when their young are reared bad blood will make itself evident. This cannot be laid at the door of the man who sells the eggs unless he is unwilling to replace the eggs or return the money paid for them.

Trusting that we have not taken up too much of your valuable time and with kindest regards, we remain,

Yours very truly,

E. G. SHOWERS.

Wisconsin.

Editor Game Breeder:

The ducks shown on the cover of the January issue are domestic fowl. Parties claiming such to be of a wild nature know nothing about wild water fowl. Birds of this nature can be had at any poultry yard in Kansas. These birds are not flyers and are slow on foot. I would not prevent game politicians from putting these on the song bird list.

G. J. KLEIN.

Kansas.

Editor Game Breeder:

Plainly, I do like your January number mallards, on cover. They were doubtless wild at one time, but high feeding has spoiled them. They can fly no doubt but I should expect the sportsman who bagged them would have as good a time as he would in shooting tame decoys. I do not think they are strong enough on the wing to please any true sportsman. I may be wrong and if so would ask the breeders' pardon and yours also.

I have bought eggs—eggs—eggs from so many so-called breeders—\$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00 per dozen guaranteed wild mallards, only to find when raised that they were just "puddle ducks" such as I think you have in your picture.

F. S. MORGAN.

Vermont.

Editor Game Breeder:

Noting picture of ducks as frontispiece of your excellent paper, beg to say I have been interested in breeding pure wild ducks for many years. I never have seen broad white collars on pure bred ducks, although they are frequent in near pure breed. Full blooded wild fowl retain the wild characteristics as to position of head and neck when at rest. Never have I had full bloods with such heavy bodies as those you show. Our Country Club maintains a very fine bunch of wild mallards that are added to with migration. I would be pleased later to note whether these ducks were not hatched from near wild mallard eggs.

Very truly,

Iowa.

C. E. COOK.

Editor Game Breeder:

Permit me to express my opinion on the quality of ducks shown on front cover of the January issue of Game Breeder. The breeding of these ducks is very poor. I would consider them a cross between a Pekin and a half-breed wild mallard. As to their power of flight, I do not believe they could fly over a three-foot fence as they look very clumsy and seem to have very short wings like the domestic duck. Their coloring is far from perfect as you will notice by the drakes which show their Pekin ancestry, more noticeable than the females. If I owned these ducks, I would sell them on the market and obtain some pure bred stock.

Yours truly,

Illinois.

J. W. TURNER.

Editor Game Breeder:

In the January number of The Game Breeder of which I am a subscriber, attention is called to the variety or specie of the ducks displayed—(for information)—on the cover. Cuts from photographs occasionally are misleading and reproductions may in some cases lack development of points fatal to the correct decision. Obviously the birds are lacking in the strong specific lines and usual character found in the grey mallard of our marshes. Evidently their long domestic career accounts for the lubberly appearance they present in the cover picture. Apparently two of the females have resemblance of cross-bred grey and black mallards and other indications are typical of the domestic Rouen and grey mallard.

I have bred and handled mallards more or less for thirty years. Mainly to study the habits of these and effect of the cross in blood of specie. Crossing grey and black mallards I found gave a noticeable addition to hardihood—but eliminated the attractive feature of plumage. Continued breeding from the domesticated wild blood from year to year, produced heavy, lubberly birds with loss to character of the original strain. Birds of this degree were not given much to flight, but rather to pilgrimages of waddling. Therefore judging from the subjects on the cover page



6 5 1 2 3 4

of The Game Breeder, I would be inclined to pass judgment against these birds as typical ducks of flight.

FOREST H. CONOVER.

Ontario, Canada.

Sample Mallards.

Dear Mr. Huntington:

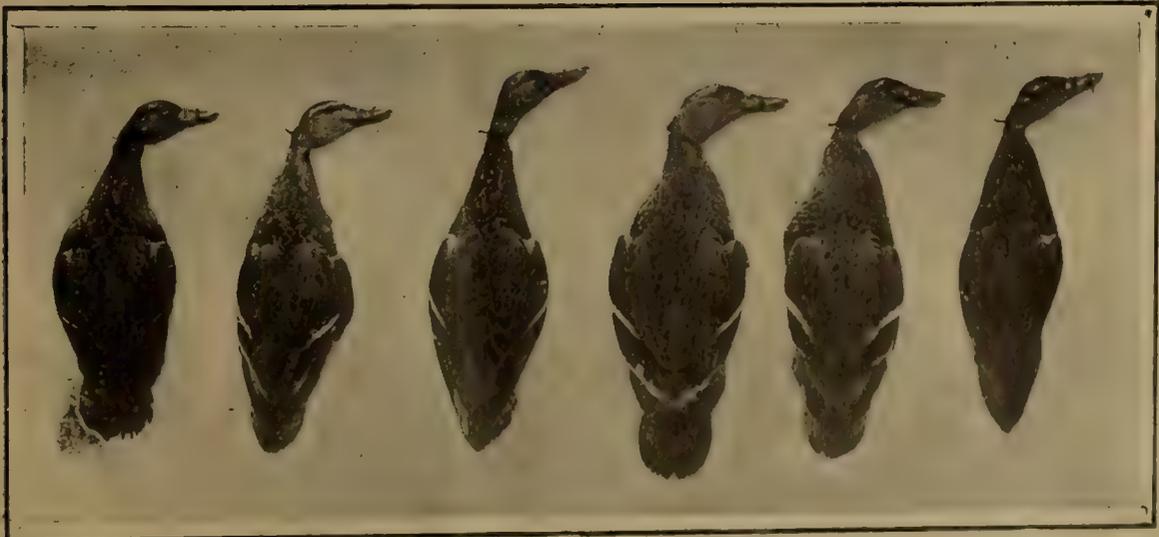
I am just in receipt of the January number of Game Breeder. On the front cover page you have a picture under which is the inscription "Wild Ducks." Don't you think it is a mistake to publish a picture of this kind and label it "Wild Ducks," as these birds are clearly nothing but puddle ducks and do not even show a reasonable amount of cross with the genuine wild mallard. They of course are descendant from the mallard stock, but so far back that almost every

vestige of the wild mallard has been eliminated, and are now nothing in the world but the ordinary barnyard puddle duck.

I am sending you a couple of photographs which will show you the difference between wild mallards and the different forms of domesticated ducks which are ordinarily sold as mallards. One picture shows hens and one drakes. The number 1 bird in both plates is the genuine wild mallard; number 4 in each plate is a genuine wild duck, but is a cross between the wild mallard and the black mallard. Can you see any difference between these wild birds and the domesticated mallards or puddle ducks and the crosses?

Louisiana.

E. L. McILHENNY.



6 5 1 2 3 4

1. Wild Mallard. 2. Domesticated Mallard. 3. 1st Cross Mallard and Puddle Duck. 4. 1st Cross Mallard and Black Duck. 5. 1st Cross Mallard and English Call Duck. 6. English Call Duck.

Artificial Quail Breeding.

Mr. William B. Coleman, who wrote about his experiences in quail breeding in Virginia for *The Game Breeder*, was employed last year to rear quail for the Oketee Club, one of the South Carolina shooting clubs which has a large preserve at Switzerland, South Carolina. Mr. Coleman has made the following report to the club, which was published in the *Game Protective Association Bulletin* with some interesting comment about snakes, which are one of the worst quail enemies in the South. The report of eggs produced and hatched and of the casualties and their causes is as follows:

EGGS PRODUCED AND HATCHED	
Eggs from 23 pens of breeders.....	468
Eggs from nests of wild birds.....	148
Total	616
Eggs broken while incubating.....	22
	594
Eggs eaten by snake in breeding-pen	6
	588
Eggs hatched	467
Unhatched eggs.....	121
CASUALTIES OF BREEDING SEASON	
Birds crushed.....	31
Birds died	45
Birds killed by snakes.....	23
Birds killed by spiteful hen.....	17
Birds died with bowel disease.....	7
	123
Birds disappeared	102
Total of birds lost from all causes.....	225
Total of birds reared and planted in covers	242

Mr. Coleman makes a creditable showing. His 23 quail have averaged a little more than 20 eggs apiece for the season; none failed to lay, the minimum was 12, and three laid 29 each.

There were hatched approximately 75 per cent. of the eggs incubated, and slightly more than 50 per cent. of the birds hatched were brought to maturity.

It will be observed that snakes accounted for a considerable loss. In view of this fact, a letter was addressed to Mr. Raymond L. Dittmars, curator of snakes of the New York Zoological Park, asking if he could suggest some protective measures. His reply reads as follows:

"This is a difficult problem. A half-inch mesh should keep out snakes large enough to eat the quail, but as snakes prowl close to the ground and find the smallest crevice—and appear to remember its location—the mesh would actually have to be imbedded. Moreover, I think a black snake would climb a three-foot strip by rearing and pressing against it. Four or five feet should be the minimum width.

"As for traps, there is nothing I know of. Snakes may sometimes be caught by placing wooden platforms on the ground, which have beneath them about two inches for hiding. These platforms may be 3 x 6 ft. in size, and built of old, weathered lumber. Straw and dead grass should be scattered about the edge to exclude the light.

"It is well to scour thoroughly the neighborhood in the spring, when vegetation is sparse. At that time snakes are abroad in numbers, seeking the sun, and definite steps may be taken to locate their lurking places and to exterminate the reptiles."

Snakes.

The control of snakes on a game preserve is highly important. The rattlesnake and the black snake are two of the worst enemies of ground nesting birds and the black snake has been observed to take birds in shrubs and trees.

On some of the big quail shoots in the South the keepers persistently kill the snakes, going over the ground with dog and gun or club. A terrier will locate many snakes which might escape the keeper's notice and often in brush it takes a quick shot to be sure of the mark. The black snake travels with great speed and is soon out of sight in brush or grass. Where a gun is used it should scatter the load well at short range. I once saw a keeper shoot at a

black snake as it went into some scrub oaks on a Long Island (N. Y.) preserve and the entire charge made a hole in the ground at the side of the snake, which escaped and could not again be found although we made diligent search for it.

Readers of *The Game Breeder* will remember Mr. Gammeter's account of a snake pursuing young wild turkeys at great speed on the Ohio game farm and any one who sees one of these snakes for the first time trying to escape will be surprised at the rapidity with which they move and disappear.

The beat keeper who continually goes over his ground with gun and terrier will kill many snakes and the death of every one means the life of many game birds. Crows, hawks and other ground and winged vermin are controlled by a good beat keeper, who will shoot many of these enemies as he makes his daily rounds protecting the nests during the breeding season and later the young birds which are an easy prey to all their enemies. I have seen keepers call crows within gun range and shoot them. When good beat keepers are employed and suitable covers and foods are provided at the sides of all of the fields quail and other game birds quickly can be made and kept as plentiful as it is desirable to have them.

The amateur may imagine there are few or no snakes on his ground because he does not happen to see them. I warned a capable keeper, when I employed him, to look out for snakes and he said he had no fears about them since he saw no signs of snakes. He was very good at noticing the signs of foxes and all other game enemies and he called my attention to many of them as we rambled over the farms. Walking in dusty roads he observed that there were no signs of snakes. I knew the character of the land, however, and felt sure it was good ground for black snakes, and I told the keeper he soon would see some. A few days later he showed me a lot of dead snakes hanging across a fence which he had saved for my inspection. Later he killed a big snake in a coop where there were young pheasants and his assistant

killed another under similar circumstances. The snake, like the owl, may not seem to be abundant or even to occur. I have known of many snakes and literally hundreds of great horned owls being killed in one season by competent keepers. Our grouse and quail easily can be made plentiful in a wild state just as partridges and grouse are in other countries and hand rearing, which is difficult and expensive, is not necessary.

=

A Fur Consolidation.

The Siberian Hare Company of Hamilton, Canada, has joined forces with another fur-bearing firm, that buys from the Indians of the Northwest and breeds foxes, martin, mink, etc.

Sir John Gibson's beautiful farm, adjoining this city, has been secured as a breeding and distributing point. This farm, though less than two miles from Hamilton, a city of over a hundred thousand, is well watered and isolated. It takes in part of what has long been known as Ainsley's Woods, embracing a once wild fox den. A beautiful and large creek or rivulet runs through the farm, which supplies water the year around. There is also about three acres of a marshy pond, in which muskrats could be advantageously raised; in fact, there are muskrats in it now. Men are now at work on the farm making houses, pens and cages to receive the animals when they come down from the North. The Siberian hares and some of the other animals are already on the place.

As in the future, so many other animals will be bred besides the black Siberian hare, a compromise was made on the name and in the future the new firm will be called the Siberian Fur Farm of Hamilton, Canada.

The new firm has strong financial backing and will be watched with interest. One of its members has spent four years with the Indians five hundred miles north of Lake Superior, and is able to speak the language of the Indians in that section.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

The Game Breeder

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The owner of the ducks printed in our January cover and reprinted in this issue, without doubt, is honest and sincere in his opinion that his ducks are true wild mallards, or at least descended from birds trapped and owned by him. He has written us that the stock birds were trapped and that the birds shown in the picture were reared on his farm from the wild trapped birds. The common barnyard turkey, however, does not often resemble the fresh-trapped wild turkeys, and it is important to bear in mind that the domestication of any species often results in a change of appearance and, unfortunately, in a loss of sporting qualities.

The owner of the ducks in a letter to *The Game Breeder* says: "The picture is not a very good picture for sportsmen to judge from. I will state positively, and I am willing to stand back of it, that my ducks are the genuine wild mallards and can fly nicely when their wings are not clipped. I would be willing to show them to any wild game judge in the world."

MAINE NOVELTIES.

We would strongly urge our readers to read and ponder well the "Maine Novelties," samples of which are published in the *Survey of the Field* this month. The "outfit" would be positively humorous were it not for the sad fact

that the game politicians and organized sportsmen seem to be entirely unaware of the rapid growth of the game breeders' industry in the States which have enacted sensible laws permitting and encouraging the production of game and game fish.

WILD BREEDING THE BEST.

We would strongly urge the Oketee Club and the other quail and grouse clubs to breed their quail and grouse wild in protected fields. It is an easy matter to thus produce all the birds the land will carry—one or more covies in every field. A head keeper who understands the game foods and covers and who can control the enemies of the game with one or more assistants who know how to shoot and trap is all that is necessary.

Hand rearing of quail and grouse may be attempted as a side line to save a few eggs which have been taken from unsafe nests, but the artificial work is not necessary or even desirable excepting on big places where an extra and an expensive and skilled man can be employed for this work alone.

The grouse and the partridges in foreign countries are not hand-reared excepting on a very few places. Some of the best American "shoots" have plenty of birds, all bred wild in the fields.

Much depends on the ability of the keeper employed.

HOW WILD STOCK DETERIORATES.

There is a great and continuing interest in the picture of the ducks to which we invited the attention of our readers (in January). Their opinions (some of which are printed in this issue) are the opinions of capable breeders and with one exception every one who has passed on the ducks says they are not wild, pure and true to type. Before asking our readers, "How about the ducks?" we had written a friendly note to their owner, in which we told him they looked somewhat heavy and did not seem to us to have the pattern and markings of the true wild mallards.

It can not be denied that the wild mallards quickly deteriorate when kept in barnyards and reared as domesticated ducks. The trim and alert appearance of the thoroughbred soon gives way to a portly figure and slouchy gait of the common greenhead of the barnyard. Soon the birds become too heavy to fly high and fast, and in some cases they appear to have entirely lost their ability to fly.

Mallards reared on farms often have opportunities to consort with other species of domesticated ducks, either ducks on the home farm or tame ducks whose acquaintance they may form when they make excursions to the duck ponds on neighboring farms.

Birds which are bred for sport should be kept strong on the wing. This can be done by feeding them at somewhat distant points and inducing them to fly to the feeding places. The wilder the birds can be kept the better. A few birds may be lost but the loss often will be offset by migratory visitors. It is certainly better to lose a few birds than to have the entire flock become domesticated and unable to fly. The pedigree of wild ducks may be all right, but the ducks may be all wrong on account of the deterioration due to the quiet life of domestication. The trim and alert human athlete easily and quickly may become an overfed, portly individual with no sign of the athlete remaining. The amateur owner of ducks, therefore, should not rely upon the pedigree of his game. He should always be on the lookout for deterioration and guard against it. Where it appears evident that any of the ducks have been consorting with tame fowl and the evidence appears in the plumage or carriage of the young birds, such spurious fowl should be sent promptly to the table or to the market. For sporting purposes birds should be strong and fast on the wing.

PHEASANTS.

The pheasants, ring necks, dark necks and the many crosses between these birds have been selling at fabulous prices. A few months ago pheasants could be bought for \$5 and \$6 per pair. They

soon went to seven dollars per pair and \$4 each for extra hens and later to \$8 per pair. Anyone who has pheasants to sell, easily can dispose of every bird. The supply appears to have been exhausted.

Some of the large breeders are holding four or five hundred hens and even more for the next breeding season. Reports coming to The Game Breeder from our larger advertisers indicate that they have already sold thousands of eggs at \$25 per hundred and we predict every egg offered will be sold.

A Western dealer wrote: "Why should I advertise when the orders coming indicate that I will sell everything without advertising?"

There are two good answers to the question.

(1) The Game Breeder is largely responsible for the excellent situation in the game market and it should be supported by those who are making money rapidly.

(2) It is an excellent plan to keep in touch with the hundreds of clubs and preserve owners who are associated with the Game Conservation Society. Many of them observe and approve the good work of The Game Breeder carried on under many difficulties and they will be inclined to deal with those who have helped the cause and who are helping to keep the business good.

Editor Game Breeder:

Why not put the clay pigeon on the song-bird list? Possibly the pursuit of this bird, also, may be found to lead to "drunkenness, idleness and politics," by those who are opposed to all forms of sport.

Ohio.

SPORT A. FIELD.

HIS EXPERIENCE.

Mrs. Henpeck—Is there any difference, Theodore, do you know, between a fort and a fortress?

Mr. Henepeck—I should imagine a fortress, my love, would be harder to silence!—London Opinion.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 3 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

THE GAME BREEDER

150 Nassau Street

New York City

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WILD TURKEYS—For prices see display advertisement in this issue. **W. J. MACKENSEN**, Yardley, Bucks County, Pa.

100 RINGNECK HEN PHEASANTS, \$4.50 EACH. Also cock pheasants. 20 pair Golden, Silver, Amherst pheasants, 200 Cottontail rabbits. Wild Geese Mallard ducks \$2.20 each. Quail \$18.75 doz. **M. O. HUMPHREY**, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

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SIBERIAN FUR FARM, HAMILTON, CANADA; breeds Foxes, Martin, Mink, Skunks, Wild Geese, Ducks. Pheasants and Black Siberian Hares. Send 25 cents for Booklet on the latter.

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SAN LORENZO GAME FARM—BREEDER OF all kinds of pheasants; eggs in season; also birds for sale at all times. Visitors welcome. Write for price list. **MRS. S. MATTHIESSEN**, San Lorenzo, Alameda Co., California. 7-16

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CANADA WILD GEESE AND THEIR GOSLINGS—A limited number for sale now—the surest way to start breeding this species. We are the oldest and largest breeders of Canadas in this country. Black and White Swans, Wild Ducks, etc., for sale. **WHEALTON WATER FOWL FARMS**, Chincoteague Island, Va.

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I wish to purchase six pair of prairie grouse, also a ruffed grouse. Will pay a good price for same. Address **READER**, care Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., New York.

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We are in the market for any varieties Fireback, Trago-pan, Temminck, White Crested Kalij, Napoleon Peacock, Whitetailed Pheasant of Thibet, White Pheasants, Formosean Pheasants, Argus Pheasants. In ducks; Bufflehead, Old Squaw, Goldeneye, Redhead, Canvasback. **CHILES & CO.**, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

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PHEASANT EGGS, PER DOZEN, ENGLISH RING-neck, \$3.00; Pure Chinese, \$3.50; Golden, \$4.00; Silver and Reeves, \$5.00; Amherst and Pure Mongolian, \$6.00. Write for circular describing brood coops, setting nests, pheasant feed and pheasant book. SIMPSON'S PHEASANT FARM, Corvallis, Oregon. (25)

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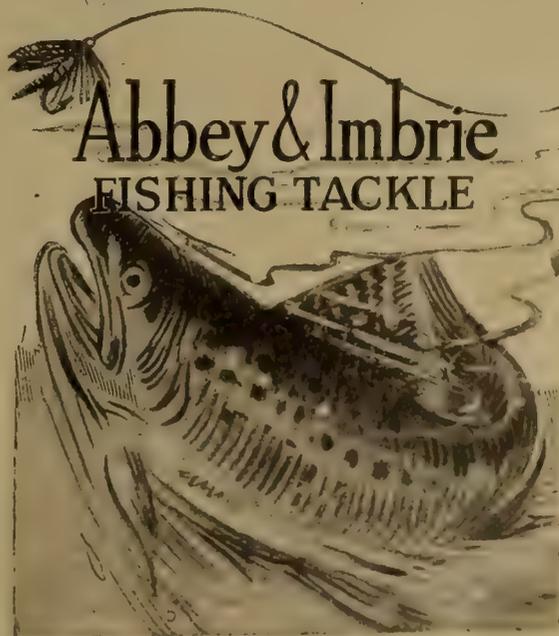
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For Sale in Large or Small Quantities

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Millbrook, Dutchess Co., New York



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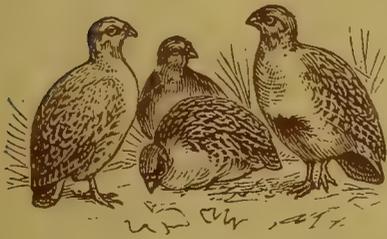
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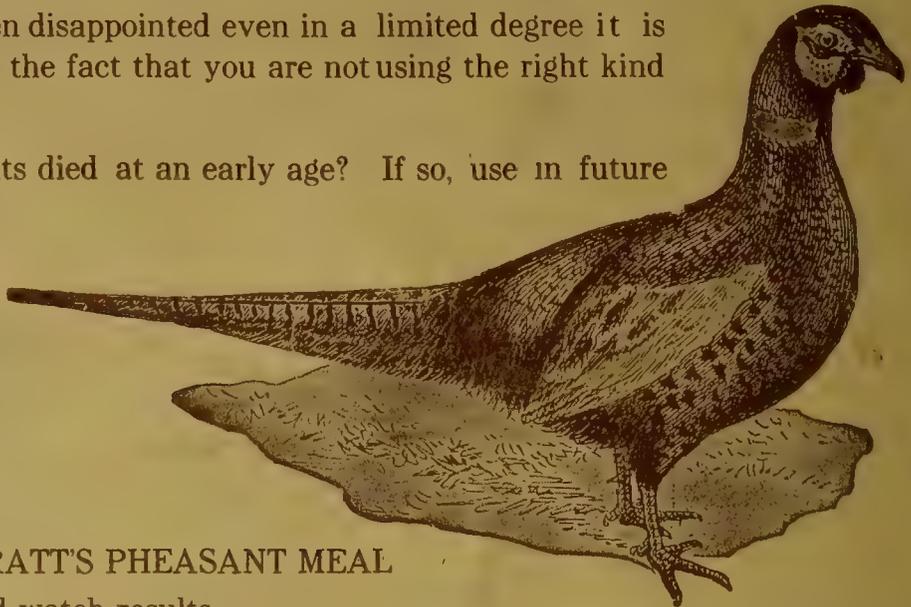
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