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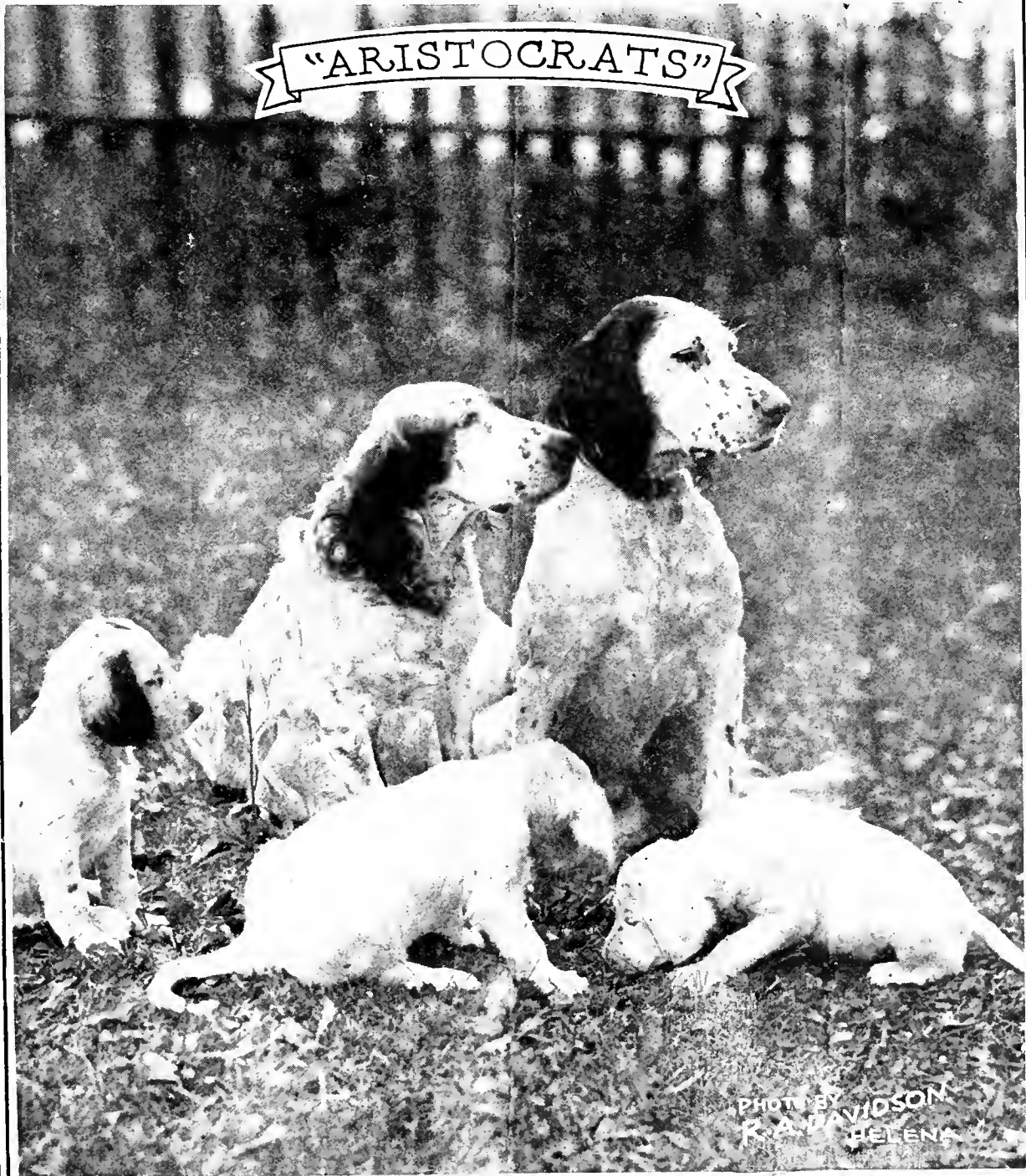


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K. A. DAVIDSON
HELENA

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
Montana State Fish and Game Dept.

The Waltonian's Prayer

By FRANK L. BAILEY

God of the Universe—supreme,
God of the forest and the stream,
Creator of the earth and skies,
Maker of all beneath that lies;
Thou, the One and Great Creator,
Thou, the One Great Conservator
Has created lake and stream
Unpolluted, sweet and clean—
Placed within them for our taking
Finny children of Thy making;
In the forest, marsh and dell
Furred and feathered children dwell;
Make us, we pray, Thy warning heed
To take not one more than we need
Of these lives of Thy creation;
For our health and recreation;
This we ask, and ask again—
Help us to be men. Amen.



MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

VOL. IV

HELENA, MONTANA, SEPTEMBER, 1931

No. 4

Season Is Closed on Upland Game Birds



STRIVING to stage a comeback, upland game birds of Montana, protected for several years to insure a future supply, will again be safe from inroads during 1931, following the order

of the State Fish and Game Commission at the meeting at Lewistown August 15. In this list of feathered game are included sharp-tailed grouse, blue grouse, prairie chicken, sage hen or sage grouse, fool hen, ruffed grouse, commonly called native pheasant or native partridge, and quail. Formal action of the commission in closing the season was taken after extended discussion based on a state-wide survey of conditions prevailing.

Game Warden Hill explained that he had requested an opinion from the attorney-general as to whether or not the commission has the power to shorten the open season, as provided for in Section 3701, on native upland game birds. He presented the attorney-general's written opinion to the effect that the commission could shorten the open season if necessary.

In connection with the open season on native upland game birds, Mr. Hill advised that he had requested reports from deputy game wardens and sportsmen's clubs as to the conditions of these birds in their districts, and their opinion as to whether or not there should be an open season this year. The general consensus of opinion is that the birds are on the increase, but most of the deputies and clubs recommended a closed season again this year. Some few requests for an open season were received. The following motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Brown, prevailed: "I move, in order to protect the native upland game birds further in this state, that there be a general closed season on all native upland game birds in the entire state of Montana for 1931."

Those attending the meeting at the Burke hotel at Lewistown were: T. N. Marlowe, chairman; W. K. Moore of Billings, E. A. Wilson of Livingston, and W. A. Brown of Great Falls, commissioners; Secretary R. H. Hill, Kenneth F. MacDonald, superintendent of fisheries; W. E. Kier, secretary of the Lewistown Rod and Gun Club, and John W. Schofield of Big Timber.

Mr. Hill stated that the Bureau of Biological Survey has shortened the federal season on migratory waterfowl 15 days, the season opening at noon Oct. 1, 1931, and the Montana season opening Sept. 16. Mr. Hill asked the commission if it is the desire to have the state season conform with the fed-

Duck Season Is Cut To One Month

MONTANA duck hunters must confine their shooting in 1931 to the month of October, rather than from September 16 to December 31, according to a proclamation by President Hoover announced August 25. The preliminary ruling cut 15 days from the forepart of the season and opened it at noon on October 1. The second ruling is outlined in the following telegram addressed to Robert H. Hill, state fish and game warden, from Washington, D. C., under date of August 25:

"Migratory bird treaty act regulations have been amended prescribing the month of October only as the open season on ducks, geese, brant and coot in your state. No other changes in regulations have been made affecting Montana."

W. C. Henderson, Acting Chief,
Bureau of Biological Survey.

eral season. He reported that the sentiment expressed at the meeting of the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners in annual meeting at Flagstaff, Arizona, was for a drastic reduction in the open season on migratory birds, and that the association had left the impression with the representative of the Biological Survey, in attendance at the meeting, that member states of the Western Association would concur with the Bureau of Biological Survey in an international closed season. Chairman Marlowe reported that at a meeting at Bismarck, N. D., game commissioners of the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and the states of North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana, which he had attended, the condition of migratory birds in these states and provinces had been reported as extremely serious, and a resolution was passed to cut the open season on these birds to 30 days, bag limit to 10, and possession limit to 20. The following motion by Chairman Marlowe, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, prevailed: "I move that, to conform with the new federal regulations regarding the taking of migratory waterfowl, we change the date of the opening of the season on migratory waterfowl in Montana from September 16 to 12 o'clock noon of Oct. 1, 1931, and that all other regulations made by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, with reference to the taking of migratory waterfowl, be adopted in this state."

Mr. Marlowe read a telegram from Dr. T. G. Pearson, president of the

Audubon Society, urging the commission to concur with an international closed season on migratory waterfowl for 1931. It was decided that although such closed season would deprive the department of much revenue, if the condition of migratory waterfowl is such to warrant such drastic action, the commission should concur, and the following motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, prevailed: "I move that our chairman wire the Bureau of Biological Survey that the State of Montana is in favor of an international closed season this year on migratory waterfowl, and would conform with such an international closed season, if declared, on account of adverse conditions."

Commissioner Moore presented petitions from residents of Billings and vicinity, asking the commission to create a song and upland bird preserve of Pioneer Park, at Billings, Yellowstone county, Montana. The petition was given to the secretary with instructions to hold the proper public hearing.

Commissioner Wilson advised that J. F. Hendricks, superintendent of the State Game Farm, had recommended that there be an open season this fall on Chinese and Mongolian pheasants and on Hungarian partridges, wherever possible, in order to scatter these birds and make them stronger. Mr. Hill reported that he has some requests from sportsmen and deputies for an open season on these birds. The following motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, prevailed: "I move that there be an open season on male Chinese and Mongolian pheasants and on Hungarian partridges of either sex, Nov. 8 to 12, 1931, both dates inclusive, in the same counties wherein we had such open season last year, the secretary to take up this matter with all the sportsmen's clubs throughout the state, with the right to place such counties as he sees fit on the list to have an open season and to make such changes as necessary; the daily bag limit to be five birds, no more than three of which may be Chinese or Mongolian cocks; the possession limit to be 10 birds, no more than six of which may be Chinese or Mongolian cocks."

State Fish and Game Warden Hill advised that there has not been a deputy game warden in Big Horn county for several months, and suggested that an appointment be made. He presented applications. Commissioner Moore recommended the appointment of T. A. Graham, whose residence is now Joliet, who has lived in Big Horn county for several years. He was recommended by the Big Horn County Rod and Gun Club, and the Hardin



American Legion. This motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Chairman Marlowe, prevailed: "I move that Mr. Graham be appointed as special deputy game warden for Big Horn county, at a salary of \$125 per month, his headquarters to be Hardin, appointment to be effective as soon as proper bond has been filed with the secretary of state."

Game Warden Hill presented a petition from residents of Judith Basin county and the Stanford Rod and Gun Club, requesting that a portion of Cottonwood creek be closed to fishing, to preserve remaining fish and Chairman Marlowe's motion carried: "I move that Cottonwood creek, in Chouteau and Judith Basin counties, be closed to fishing, from its source to the creek crossing at the ranch buildings on the O. G. Osnes ranch on said creek, and all its tributaries, until further order of the commission."

Warden Hill read a request from the Stillwater Rod and Gun Club of Absarokee, for the closing of a portion of the West Rosebud river, in Stillwater county, to protect young fish. Deputy Sailor and Bill Phillips of Absarokee recommended such action. The motion of Mr. Marlowe prevailed: "I move that the West Rosebud river, in Stillwater county, be closed to all fishing, from the Mystic lake power plant down to the head of Emerald lake, until further order of the commission."

Mr. Hill read a request from Deputy L. C. Clark, at Havre, for the closing of Big Sage creek, in Liberty county, to protect the small fish, and this motion of Commissioner Moore carried: "I move that Big Sage creek, and all its tributaries, in Liberty county, be closed to fishing until further order of the commission."

Warden Hill read a letter from John A. Anderson of Chinook, requesting the commission to close to fishing the tributary to Clear creek which runs through his ranch. He suggested that the commission build rearing ponds on this stream on his property. K. F. MacDonald, superintendent of fisheries, reported that he and Deputy Clark had made an inspection of this creek, but had found no sites for rearing ponds. He also reported that there are few fish in this stream, and would not recommend closing it to fishing. In view of Mr. MacDonald's report, Mr. Anderson's requests were denied.

Deputy Sailor suggested that Trout creek, in Stillwater county, which is now closed to fishing during the entire year, be opened to fishing during the regular open season, inasmuch as it is drying up. No action was taken.

Elwyn L. Metzel of Alder requested the closing of the Ruby river. Mr. Hill advised that he had written Mr. Metzel, asking him to circulate a petition, and inasmuch as no petition has been received, the matter was tabled.

M. P. Mahnken of Durant, Montana, requested the closing of German Gulch creek and its two tributary streams, Beef Straight and Norton Gulch creeks, to fishing, inasmuch as they have just been heavily stocked. He advised that the residents of that vicinity approve such action. Mr. MacDonald recommended the closing of these streams

Dates To Remember

October 1—Noon, to October 31, both dates inclusive, open season on ducks, geese and other migratory waterfowl unless further revisions are made by federal government.

November 8-12, both dates inclusive—Open season on male Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges of either sex in specified counties.

October 15-November 15—Open season on male deer and elk in specified counties.

October 15-December 20—Open season on elk in Park county unless changed by order of game warden.

December 1-April 15—Open season on fur-bearing animals.

No open season this year on upland game birds.

also, and the motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Brown, prevailed: "I move that German Gulch creek and its two tributary streams, Beef Straight and Norton Gulch creeks, in Silver Bow county, be closed to fishing until further order of the commission."

Mr. Hill presented a petition, addressed to Commissioner Brown, from members of the Belt Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, requesting the commission to build rearing ponds on Belt creek, for the purpose of restocking it. Commissioner Brown's motion prevailed that this request be referred to Mr. MacDonald for his investigation and report.

Commissioner Brown presented a letter from G. A. Bosley, secretary of the Great Falls Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, asking repairs to rearing ponds on Sheep creek and Belt creek. The letter was referred to Mr. MacDonald for investigation. Consideration of his request for a shorter elk hunting season was delayed until a later meeting. A letter to Mr. Brown from Frank Polutnik, relative to elk conditions, was also held for action until a later meeting.

Mr. Hill read a resolution from the Havre Chamber of Commerce, protesting the taking over of Lake Bowdoin by the Bureau of Biological Survey for a federal bird refuge. Such resolution was also made by the Malta Commercial Club. He also presented a similar letter from Fred C. Gabriel, Malta attorney.

Mark Timmons, of Fromberg, protested that there are too many pheasants in that district, and requesting a longer open season in that valley.

Mr. Hill advised that Roger W. Toll, superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, had written him, asking if the department would be interested in receiving a dozen or more black bear cubs for liberation in the state. They have a surplus in the park. The question arose as to whether the cubs could take care of themselves this late in the year, and the matter was left to the discretion of Mr. Hill.

J. F. Hendricks, superintendent of the State Game Farm, asked four holding pens and 12 exhibition pens, and Mr. Hill was authorized to purchase the material necessary for these pens.

Mr. Hill read a letter from the forest supervisor at Butte requesting the closing of Rock creek and its tributaries

during August and September. In view of the fact that the notice could not be published and effective until Sept. 1, and the request was for such a short period, no action was taken.

Charles L. Adams, of Lodge Grass, wrote on behalf of the Big Horn county sportsmen, asking the commission to close to fishing a portion of Rottengrass creek, on which a rearing pond has been built, and this request was granted. That portion of Rottengrass creek, in Big Horn county, within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 14, Twp. 8, R. 32 E., running through the P. T. Spear property, was closed to fishing until further order of the commission.

Deputy Chartrand advised that the U. S. Department of Agriculture had offered to deed a plot of ground at the Miles City Experimental Station to the State of Montana or the Miles City club, and suggested that possibly the state would like it for a State Game Farm. Inasmuch as no plans are made at present for another game farm, no action was taken.

The Havre Gun Club requested reservoirs in the Havre district for carrying game fish.

The Lewistown Rod and Gun Club requested a building program at the Lewistown hatchery, for three additional rearing ponds, four new troughs, a garage, and keeping the hatchery open all year. Mr. Kier invited the members of the commission to make an inspection of the hatchery. Following the inspection trip the matter was again given consideration. Mr. MacDonald explained that because of finances, it would be impossible to grant all the requests made by the Lewistown club. The advantages of concrete and wooden ponds was discussed. Mr. Kier requested that a phone be installed at the hatchery to expedite business. Superintendent MacDonald was instructed to have a telephone installed at the Lewistown hatchery, and authorized to build three or four rearing ponds there of such type as he believes the most suitable.

Mr. MacDonald suggested that instead of building a garage at this time at the Lewistown hatchery, a lean-to be built to protect the cars there, and that later, when funds permit, the present residence be converted into a garage, and a new residence building be constructed. His suggestions were accepted; and no decision was made as to whether or not the hatchery would be run during the entire year, due to finances.

Mr. Brown suggested that a budget be made for future expenditures, and asked to go on record as being against the maintenance of MONTANA WILD LIFE, and the continuation of an educational secretary.

Mr. Hirsh appeared before the commission on behalf of the Stanford Rod and Gun Club, and requested that Running Wolf creek, in Judith Basin county, be kept open to fishing during the regular open season; and a closed season made on upland game birds. Mr. Kier and Mr. Hirsh decided to discuss the matter further with their clubs relative to the open season on Chinese and Mongolian pheasants and Hungarian partridges.

Mr. Hill asked the commission if it



is their desire that the seven wild life films made by Photographer Fair be kept in Helena or at some other point, and on motion of Mr. Marlowe, Mr. Hill was instructed to write to Missoula for these films, have them sent to Helena, and use Helena as the distribution point. Mr. Hill was authorized to have the negative films of these seven finished reels insured.

The secretary of the Billings Commercial Club advised that there will be a meeting in Billings on August 24 of the engineers of the War Department, relative to the control of the water in the Yellowstone river basin, and invited a representative of the Fish and Game Department to attend. Mr. Moore was authorized to attend or send a representative.

A letter from the International Assembly of Trade, Art and Travel, asked the commission to assist in putting on an exhibition in New York City.

C. B. Kenck, of Hamilton, asked that certain lands in the Mill creek district, in Ravalli county, be closed to deer hunting. The secretary was authorized to get the opinion of the Hamilton Sportsmen's Club.

Mr. Hill advised that he had heard no further from T. C. McDermott, of Mason City, Iowa, relative to the purchase of land by the department near Forsyth for a proposed refuge. Mr. Wilson advised that Dr. Haywood of Forsyth is working on this proposition.

Mr. Hill gave a report of the meeting of the Western Association of State Fish and Game Commissioners at Flagstaff, Arizona, and at which meeting seven of the 11 member states were represented, as well as the forest service, the parks service, the Bureau of Biological Survey, and the Conservation Department of the Province of British Columbia. He read to the commission the resolutions passed by the association at their meeting, and reported it the most interesting meeting he had attended.

Mr. Wilson requested the closing of two creeks at the head of the Shields river. They are Spring creek and Bear creek, and because fish recently have been planted in them, it is the desire of the Livingston club that they be closed to fishing. They were closed to fishing until further order of the commission.

Mr. Marlowe presented a petition from citizens of Flathead county, requesting that Rocky Mountain whitefish be taken off the game fish list, that they be caught by hook, line and pole, and sold on the market. Mr. Marlowe advised that Deputy O'Claire and other sportsmen in that county had requested that this petition be disregarded. On motion of Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Brown, this petition was denied, and Chairman Marlowe was authorized to advise the petitioners of the action of the commission.

Chairman Marlowe suggested that a letter be written to the Forest Service, expressing the appreciation of the department of their able and efficient control of forest fires in the state and he was authorized to write such a letter.

Superintendent MacDonald advised that U. B. Gilroy, with the Bureau of

Canned Carp Meat For Montana Fish

WITH the disappearance of the Montana mustang from the open range and the gradual cutting down of the cayuse supply, has gone the horse liver secured from packing houses as food for fingerling trout in 14 state hatcheries. Demand for beef liver caused by the discovery of health-giving vitamins has made further inroads into the fish food supply and the State Fish and Game Department has been forced to seek other sources. Hence, the commission has authorized establishing of a carp drying and canning plant on the shores of Lake Helena. Under the supervision of Kenneth F. MacDonald, superintendent of fisheries, the plant is now being set up. Carp will be trapped and seined from the lake, placed in the cooking and drying house and then sealed in gallon cans for distribution to the hatcheries. The department is now paying 7 cents per pound in gallon cans for carp. When mixed with wheat middlings and other foods, the game fish thrive on it. Expectations are that the plant will be self-sustaining.

Fisheries, had reported that the federal fish screen will be installed in one of the reclamation ditches in Lake county within the near future, at a cost of approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Marlowe asked whether the fair exhibit would be shown at the Flathead County Fair at Kalispell, this season. After a discussion of the expense of taking the exhibit to Kalispell, and the hold-over necessary, the following motion was made by Commissioner Moore: "I move that the exhibit not be sent to Kalispell this year, in view of the cost of taking it there." Seconded by Mr. Brown and carried.

In response to the request of the Hamilton Sportsmen's Club for an open season on elk in Ravalli county, the following motion was made by Chairman Marlowe: "I move that all that portion of Ravalli county, lying east of the Bitter Root river, be open to the hunting and shooting of one elk of either sex, from Nov. 11 to 15, both dates inclusive, 1931." Seconded by Mr. Brown and carried.

Superintendent MacDonald advised that there is a shortage of horse liver for fish food in the state, and that the Utah Canning Company has advised that they cannot fill orders for fish food in this state. He reported visiting the canning plant of the State of Washington for fish food, where they prepare and can carp for fish food. The cost of this food is about 1½c per pound, and the cost for seven-pound cans is seven cents each. He advised that he has permission from the Montana Power Company to establish a carp canning plant at Lake Helena, that he has a man investigating the situation, and asked authorization to establish such a plant. The estimated cost for establishing the plant is \$3,000. He advised that he believes the plant will pay for itself, and that it will be an economical move, as the situation is critical. He was authorized to go ahead with the work of establishing a fish food can-

ning plant, if he deems it advisable, after a thorough investigation.

Mr. MacDonald stated that he would need a truck for this work, and stated that there is a truck at Great Falls which is not in use, which would probably bring a satisfactory amount on a turn-in for a better second-hand truck. He was authorized to use his judgment in turning in the truck at Great Falls on a suitable truck.

Mr. MacDonald reported that it is becoming more important all the time that rearing ponds be built at the hatcheries, for retaining fish until they reach a larger size. Particularly necessary are ponds at Big Timber, Missoula, Anaconda and Emigrant. The Billings Rod and Gun Club is anxious to have a pond built at Big Timber, and the Missoula club is anxious to have a pond at the Missoula hatchery. Mr. Marlowe suggested that the Missoula club might be able to help financially in building the pond at Missoula. The motion by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Brown, was carried: "I move that Mr. MacDonald be instructed to complete the rearing pond program at the Big Timber and Missoula hatcheries, and that Mr. Marlowe work with him on this proposition."

Washington Eyes Montana System

"SPORTSMEN of Washington, Idaho and Wyoming, through which states I have passed during the summer, have expressed a keen interest in the Montana form of state fish and game development," said John T. Little of Spokane when he called on Robert H. Hill, Montana's State Fish and Game Warden. Mr. Little is one of Washington's outstanding sportsmen and has for years been the guiding head of the annual Sportsmen's Show staged there. He is owner of the John T. Little sports goods store.

"Washington sportsmen who have grown tired of the county game management system, the county license plan and the tribulations of county law enforcement, are looking to Montana as an example of results achieved through centralized state management," continued Mr. Little. "The Montana commission is known throughout the nation because of its progressive steps, its conscientious conservation and the impartial, fair manner in which it goes about its business. We of Washington especially are interested in the precedent established in Montana in legalizing the Montana Sportsman's License. It is indeed a document of honor which every angler and hunter should be proud to display. MONTANA WILD LIFE, official publication of the department, is doing much to carry the message of Montana fish and game activities to residents of other states. We are hopeful that Washington may soon be permitted by the legislature to follow the Montana lead of state fish and game management."



Artificial Lakes Mean More Ducks



EFFORTS to create artificial bodies of water rather than taking over control of natural lakes, as nesting areas and refuges for migratory waterfowl, have been recommended to the

Bureau of Biological Survey by the Western Association of Fish and Game Commissioners, in annual session at Flagstaff, Arizona, as the logical means of aiding in solving the duck problem in the west. Action of the organization, in which 11 western states and provinces of Canada are included, was taken following the presentation of a forceful argument on the subject by Robert H. Hill of Helena, state fish and game warden and Montana's representative at the conference. The meetings were held August 3, 4 and 5.

The following resolutions were passed:

Resolution No. I

WHEREAS, the natural waters of the 11 western states which are frequented by migratory wild fowl are extremely limited, and

WHEREAS, these areas are already under state management and control and are utilized for the benefit of migratory birds, and

WHEREAS, to remove these from state control and prohibit legitimate shooting thereon would deprive the sportsmen of these states of their right and heritage to enjoy a reasonable and fair amount of shooting, and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for additional water areas in the said 11 western states, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Association of Game and Fish Commissioners in regular convention assembled do recommend that the Biological Survey in its 10-year program give its full attention to the development of new and artificial water areas, and that further expense in making surveys of existing water areas be suspended, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a closer cooperation and contact between the agents and agencies of the government and the State Game and Fish departments be adopted and maintained in all future selections of wild fowl areas for sanctuary purposes.

Resolution No. II

WHEREAS, the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute at great expense to themselves, are gathering valuable information relative to the life and habits of game animals and birds, for the purpose of assisting state game departments in developing a more scientific policy of game administration;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Association express our appreciation of this effort and pledge our hearty cooperation and support of the same.

Resolution No. III

WHEREAS, It appears that the sportsmen and people of Utah, in the interests of conservation of migratory wild fowls, voluntarily turned over to the

control of the federal government a certain valuable shooting area for the purpose of providing a refuge for migratory wild fowl on the Bear River marsh, and

WHEREAS, It was the distinct understanding and agreement that 40% of this area should be open to public shooting under state control, now

BE IT RESOLVED, That this Association requests that the spirit of the law and the agreement creating the above refuge be carried out and the said area be not closed to shooting unless and until it shall become necessary to close all other like shooting areas for the preservation of migratory birds.

Resolution No. IV

WHEREAS, for a third consecutive year drought conditions prevail generally over a great portion of the nesting and breeding areas of the migratory game birds of North America, and

WHEREAS, this condition has depleted the numbers of our migratory birds to an alarming degree and extinction of some species may result unless remedial regulations are promulgated and enforced, and

WHEREAS, a critical emergency is believed to exist, now

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Western Association of Game and Fish Commissioners in regular convention assembled at Flagstaff, Arizona, August 3, 1931, that said association is in sympathy and accord with and will lend its aid and assistance in supporting any reasonable uniform regulation which shall have as its object a shortening of the present open season in each and all of the states of this Union, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the baiting of shooting grounds, within 100 yards of a blind or shooting stand, be prohibited in each and every state of the United States, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event the open season on migratory birds in the United States is restricted to a minimum of 45 days for 1931, that each of said states shall have the right to elect and determine the dates of said open season any time within the limits of the present international open season as at present amended.

Resolution No. V.

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Biological Survey is engaged in an active program of predatory and rodent animal control in the various states, and

WHEREAS, the above species of animals and several species of predacious birds are known to be destroying large numbers of young ducks and other game birds on the marshes and nesting grounds in the western states, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that the said Biological Survey be requested and advised to institute an active program of rodent and predatory animal and predacious bird control on and adjacent to the breeding and nesting areas of our migratory birds in the states represented

by this association, said control to be exercised only by and with the consent of each state game and fish department affected.

Mr. Hill's address follows:

"Civilization, plus heat and low water, combined with an apparent shortage of engineering foresight and an abundance of red woolen string, is raising hob with our migratory waterfowl. Remedial measures are mandatory. With the passing of each year we have watched the slow but sure passing of our water birds. We who have seen them darken the sun in their southern flights, we who have watched them thrive in their native nesting grounds surrounded by natural conditions and natural food such as to cause them to return year after year and we who have likewise witnessed their migration to the slaughter in the southlands, should give more than passing thought to problems which involve their very existence.

"It has not been many years ago since ducks and geese blackened lakes, pot holes and rivers of southern Canada and the Pacific Northwest states. The freezeup in Canada has annually brought forth the southern flight which was eagerly awaited by welders of the scattergun in states farther south. Whistling down by the thousands, they came. Resting briefly they continued their way southward over the Bear River marshes in Utah, down the Missouri and Mississippi, along the Pacific coast to Mexico and through other channels of flight until the mass of migratory vagrants gathered by millions in placid waters of sunkist lands of the south.

"In this discussion of conditions now confronting our migratory waterfowl it is not my intention to dwell upon the shooting problem or deviate along lines of the folly of tinkering with northern seasons resulting in benefits to sportsmen of the south. It is my intention, however, to lay before you a series of facts which have developed in Montana and sister states, which command the attention of conservationists and which must be corrected if our migratory waterfowl is to be conserved.

"To sum up the situation which I wish to discuss, it might be well at the outset to stress this fact: If western states are to receive assistance worth while from the federal government, the money already made available should be devoted to the surveying and construction of ARTIFICIAL ponds and lakes through erecting dykes and dams, rather than taking over NATURAL bodies of water which are proven nesting and resting areas.

"Authoritative Canadian reports are to the effect that the drought which has been general in the United States, with the exception of a few favored spots, has hit the potholes and nesting grounds in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, where the majority of our ducks hatch their young. The marshes have dried up before the young ducks



were able to fly and starvation ensued. Then came the predatory animals and birds, and without adequate protection the available supply has been seriously diminished. Similar conditions have prevailed in Montana and other border states, except on the larger bodies of water such as Lake Bowdoin and the Red Rock lakes. Ducks which finally settled down to the serious business of raising families were in many cases caught in midseason by drought conditions worse than last year and a heavy percentage of ducklings and moulting adults was destroyed. Meanwhile, bear this fact in mind—spring freshets filled potholes, rivulets and rivers and the water was allowed to rush off unchecked and unimpounded just a few months preceding the nesting season of these same migratory waterfowl caught in the drought.

"Natural conditions have, of course, had much to do with this situation, yet much of the loss may be directly traced to man's lack of foresight. Draining of marshes for agricultural purposes, the increasing demand on streams for water for irrigating farms and the slashing of timber from our watersheds has brought about a general lowering of water levels and the consequent suffering of our migratory waterfowl. No less an authority than our good friend Seth Gordon, president of the American Game Association, declares that about 75,000,000 acres of swamp and marsh land in the nation have been drained and converted to agriculture. At least a third of this drainage has later proved to be a mistake and often an economically tragic mistake. While adding dry acreage of doubtful value, it ruined many times as much acreage by lowering underground water levels. Some day we may realize that valuable wild life and a normal water supply are worth more than a few acres of farm land of questionable value. In like manner, we may some day come to the full realization of the fact that dallying with natural bodies of water in an effort to preserve the waterfowl supply is a foolish expenditure of finances, while all about us are opportunities for the impounding of spring freshets and the storing of water in artificial lakes that will eventually add to the water supply area by thousands of acres and retain native and migratory ducks for indefinite periods.

"It is just this problem which is now vexing sportsmen of Montana and sister states. For your information, it might be well to check back over the Montana situation and give you the background of the picture. In the legislative session of 1929, Montana was among the first states to enact a law permitting the secretary of agriculture to acquire by purchase or deed such land as were deemed necessary for sanctuaries for waterfowl. When the bill was in the making and when the discussion was brought to authorities of the State Fish and Game Commission, it was deemed wisdom to permit what we then assumed would be the expenditure of large sums of money within the state in creating needed sanctuaries. The measure was indorsed all along the line and passed by both house and

Send In Your Dollar For Wild Life

MONTANA WILD LIFE, official publication of the State Fish and Game Department, forms the connecting link between sportsmen of the state and the department. It tells you where your license fee is being expended. Earnest endeavors are put forth to make the magazine the sort of a periodical desired by lovers of the out-of-doors of the Treasure State. If your name is not on the regular mailing list, send in your dollar for a year's subscription now. If your subscription is about to expire, renew it now. If you have a friend in east or west who is interested in conservation in Montana, send him the magazine for a year.

senate without question, because of the belief that it meant wholesome conservation of wild life. We had not a thought that it might eventually be reconstructed in intent and bring about the setting aside of natural bodies of water which have for years been the most popular shooting grounds in the state, where thousands of dollars have been expended in the construction of club houses and in the planting of duck food. Montana sportsmen now realize the legislative mistake and are chastising themselves for accordng their support to the measure. This change of heart has been brought about through activities of the Biological Survey in sending groups of engineers into the field to survey the waters of our larger lakes, totally neglecting the survey of possible sites for artificially created lakes which would add materially to the water acreage and prove of vastly increased benefit to ducks, geese and shore birds. In short words, if the money which has already been expended in maintaining and continuing these surveying crews in Montana, doing work on larger bodies of water with the intent of laying before Washington, D. C., authorities the possible withdrawal of natural shooting grounds, had been devoted to the building of artificial dykes and dams, Montana today would have several additional artificial lakes, rather than having nothing to show for the effort aside from blue-prints and the unrest created among sportsmen.

"Let us take Benton lake for example. This natural reservoir, 16 miles from Great Falls on the road to the historic community at Fort Benton, which was once the head of navigation on the Missouri river, was created as a federal sanctuary late in 1929 after experts of the Biological Survey had declared it was desirable for such a purpose. The lake is now as dry as a smoked codfish. The refilling of the lake by construction of a ditch 12 miles long is now occupying the attention of sportsmen of Montana—not of officers of the Biological Survey. The lake was recently visited by a party including Congressman Scott Leavitt, W. A. Brown, member of the State Fish and Game Commission, sportsmen and commissioners of Cascade county in which Great Falls, the second largest city in the

state, is located. It is planned to reconstruct a road to the lake and in preparation for this location the contour maps of the reclamation survey were studied and it was found that the water in the lake was at no time more than 10 feet deep. Federal aid will be required and facts in the case will again be presented to proper governmental authorities. This burning fact has seared its way into the minds of men interested in conservation: If federal money needlessly spent in surveying larger bodies of water had been devoted to saving the waters of Benton lake it would today be covered with waterfowl instead of being a dry hole.

"I distinctly recall a trip made to the Benton lake region about four years ago when ducks by the thousands raised in clouds at this time of year. In later years this condition had existed, yet today, after the area has become a federal sanctuary, the site is barren of wild life and lays outstretched as an example of misguided activity.

"In Montana as well as in every state represented at this conference there are available spots where the throwing up of a dike or the building of a dam of earth and concrete would impound water of incalculable value. These artificial lakes would mean the increased area for waterfowl but would without question add to the attractions offered by each state in many ways.

"In connection with this work of creating artificial lakes, attention should be paid to keeping down the onslaughts of predacious birds and animals. Inroads made by these killers during the nesting season particularly and then after the young are hatched, diminish the supply of waterfowl and add to the toll taken by evaporation of water and the eventual drying up of lakes and potholes.

"Serious drought conditions and the effect on waterfowl were recently thoroughly discussed at a meeting at Bismarck, attended by representatives of five northwestern states. It was the sense of that meeting that some national movement be set afoot to bring about protective measures. Reports emanating from Bismarck, in some instances were erroneous in making the statement that these representatives of five states were considering closing the duck season in those states only. Such action would be folly. It would simply mean providing better shooting for states outside the closed area and for sportsmen residing along the line of flight in winter migration. It would but further emphasize the expression of duck fans of late years that we of the north raise the ducks and sportsmen farther south do the shooting. This expression has been fostered by the fact that mid-season freezeups means goodbye to the ducks, therefore providing northern sportsmen with comparatively few weeks in which to enjoy even the scant supply available. It might not be amiss if this conference likewise took some definite action regarding emergency revision of the 1931 season, so as to equalize shooting seasons between the north, south, east and west."

Montana Fish and



Game Commission

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Jos. L. KELLY, Anaconda...*Commissioner*

W. K. MOORE, Billings...*Commissioner*

E.A. WILSON, Livingston...*Commissioner*

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CONSERVATION—A DEFINITION

(By Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York)

CONSERVATION is a word that means something to everyone. Broadly speaking, its implications of saving and protecting what we own that is of genuine worth, whether of wealth, health or of happiness, is inclusive enough to take in all the functions of government. Functions gathered together under what is known as the Conservation Department of our State Government touch very closely all of these three things—wealth and health and unhappiness. We use the word conservation particularly with reference to the conserving—the saving, the protecting and the increasing of the physical resources nature has provided within our state's boundaries. We consider how to make these resources most useful in advancing the health and happiness of those who live here now and how also to hand them on as a heritage to our descendants, at the very least unimpaired; at the best, augmented and increased and made more available and useful to our descendants.

We speak of material values that can be appraised on a balance sheet; we speak of no less material values in the protection and conservation of health; we speak of facilities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment, and, not least of all, we speak of aesthetic values that will have much to do with shaping the future character—the idealism—of our citizenship.

The State of New York has embarked upon a program of making good use of good things that have been too much neglected in the past. Our state is a great factory of the implements of what we are pleased to call civilization. But we don't want it to be exclusively a factory. We want it to be a land rich in opportunities for joyful living. And we have found that there are no artificial joys to replace the natural benefits of wooded hills and fertile valleys, clear mountain air, forests peopled with protected wild life, sparkling lakes and rippling, unpolluted streams.

The green slopes of our forested hills lured our first settlers and furnished them the materials of a happy life. They and their descendants were a little careless with that asset. Those who found abundance in New York state were no different from the rest. Once there was a great wealth of timber here. Now we have great barren areas where productive forests once stood. But modern progress in forestry and agriculture has conferred an opportunity on us. Intensive modern farming goes to the fertile plains of broad extent and rules out stubborn acres stolen from the forests. Annually, hundreds of thousands of acres in this state are being abandoned for farm use.

"There is certainly something in angling that tends to produce a gentleness of spirit, and a pure sincerity of mind."—Washington Irving.

WHEN NOT TO TAKE FISH

"IT HAS been found by scientific research that it is impossible to fish-out a lake stocked with any member of the bass family, for instance, if two simple rules are followed," advises the Izaak Walton League, "and these are, don't take any fish until they have reached a size which assures that they have spawned at least once, and don't take any fish until the spawning period is well over."

The league points out that the legal size limits and the open seasons established in most states are based on these facts. The minimum size is set in order to make sure that the fish has spawned before being caught and the season limitations set to avoid spawning periods.

"It is an astonishing fact that, no matter how many anglers may fish in any lake or stream, it is impossible to deplete the supply if these simple rules are carefully followed and, in keeping undersized fish and fishing out of season, fishermen have been and are ruining their own sport, for no amount of restocking can keep fishing up to par if these simple rules of nature are ignored.

"In removing hooks from undersized trout before throwing them back, handle the fish with extreme care, drop them off the hook if possible and avoid handling with the hands as the human hand seems to cause a fungus to grow resulting in fish dying.

"Obey the laws which are intended to improve your sport, don't take any more fish than you need, take an active interest in restocking where now made necessary, and fishing will continue and improve."

A friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.

LONG BOW COMING BACK FOR HUNTING GAME

THE bow and arrow, first weapon to be used on big game in America, is coming back into its own—this time not in the hands of primitive hunters but of modern sportsmen deliberately seeking greater handicaps in their sport. Pennsylvania and New Hampshire legislatures recently legalized hunting with the bow. These were among the big game states which have prohibited its use on the ground that it would maim too much game without bringing it down. Today, however, sportsmen disciples of Art Young, professional archer noted for his hunting excursions with the bow into every part of the world, are said to be highly skilled. Such leading sportsmen as Aldo Leopold, well known investigator of game conditions, and Lynn G. Adams, superintendent of the state police force of Pennsylvania, now hunt with the bow and claim that since archers, to get their quarry, must stalk with greater skill and place their shots with more care, they run even less risk of maiming game than do the average gun-toters.

Trust people. Believe in people. Make a hobby of people. You'll be cheated—yes—many times. But in the long run you'll win all that the cynics and pessimists lose.

BATHE FISH IN MAINE

BATHS for little fishes have come into vogue in state fish hatcheries, as the result of a discovery by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game. For years the worst cause of loss at the hatcheries, where many millions of fish are raised annually to restock waters, has been a fungus growth which killed the young fish. Through its experiments the Maine department has found that this growth can be destroyed if the fish are given acetic acid baths, according to Commissioner George J. Stobie. So now each hatchery's troublesome family of millions of fish youngsters have to wash their "necks and ears" regularly with acetic acid for soap. Subjecting fish to "medicinal" baths has long been a practice in the hatcheries of Montana. It has proved to be an excellent preventative as well as a remedy in the problems of diseased fish.



MONTANA WILD LIFE



BIRDS DEVOUR INSECT PESTS

THAT man's last great battle will be with insect hordes is the belief of many scientists. Nature's combat troops for repelling the invasions of the enemy are the birds. Their protection should be a matter of constant concern. The devastation of the grain fields of certain states in the west by an invading host of grasshoppers, and which has destroyed hopes for a crop in many areas for the current year, is a startling demonstration of the effectiveness of an insect attack and of how difficult it is to control.

That birds have successfully met and repulsed such invasions is a matter of record. In Salt Lake City there stands a monument surmounted by bronze figures of two gulls. This commemorates a signal service rendered by their kind when, following a three-year period of attack by millions of black crickets that threatened ruin to the crops upon which the lives of the settlers depended, large flocks of California gulls which range the western coast but nest in the interior, gathered for the rescue and fed upon the crickets, wiping them out. Utah has never forgotten the service and throws every protection around these birds. Another notable instance of a similar service was when gulls of the same species in 1907-08 rendered an invaluable service in Nevada in destroying field mice that were devastating crops. The gulls that appeared in hundreds greatly aided the farmers in their warfare against the pests.

An examination of the contents of the stomachs of even the generally condemned among our bird neighbors would be sufficient to spike guns now turned against them. The sparrow hawk, once a common sight as he perched along the wayside but now seldom seen, prefers a meal of grasshoppers above any other article on his diet list. The red-shouldered hawk, the broad-winged hawk, the meadowlark, crow, red-winged blackbird, blue jay and many others, share the taste of the sparrow hawk for grasshoppers and for many other pests. As the numbers of birds in a section diminish the menace of insect hordes is increased. For economic reasons, if for no other, birds merit protection.

Two quarts pale linseed oil, eight ounces resin, two ounces sugar of lead in oil make tent water-proof if applied when hot.

BIG HOOKS CATCH BIG FISH

IF ANGLERS would make a practice of using large-sized fish hooks thousands of small fish would be saved. It is illegal to take under-sized fish. Besides, the majority of fishermen do not want small fish. They are put back into the water after they are taken from the hook. Many of them die from injuries. Those fishing with worms, meat, or live bait should use a large-size hook so the smaller fish can not swallow or impale themselves upon it. It is the small hook that does the damage. Fly fishermen who use small hooks are not usually troubled with small fish, for they seldom strike.

Millions of small fish may be saved to grow into large fish if anglers will follow one simple rule—wet the hands thoroughly when taking little fish off the hook preparatory to releasing them back to the waters. Of course the small fish should be handled gently and released under water, not thrown back. A dry hand disturbs the protective film of the fish. If this is broken, fungi attaches to the body of the fish and eventually kills it. Thousands of anglers that have been wetting their hands declare that millions of small fish have already been saved by this practice.

If a few matches are carried in several pockets generally some will be dry when needed.

HOW HUNTING AIDED CELLINI

HUNTING as a sport is as old as the ages. Four hundred years ago Benvenuto Cellini, the Italian artist, wrote: "It is true that the great delight I took in this exercise (hunting) bid fair to withdraw me from my art and studies; yet in another way it gave me more than it deprived me of, seeing that each time I went shooting I returned greatly benefitted in health, because the open air was a benefit to my constitution. My natural temperament was melancholy, and while I was taking these amusements, my heart leapt up with joy, and I found that I could work better and with far greater mastery than when I spent my whole time in study and manual labor. In this way my gun, at the end of the game, stood me more profit than loss."

SPORTSMANSHIP IN BUSINESS

COOPERATION with Montana's State Fish and Game Department in enforcement of the law which forbids the sale, use or possession of salmon eggs or imitations thereof, is demonstrated in gratifying manner in an announcement by John T. Little, sports goods dealer of Spokane. Sportsmen of eastern Washington are keenly interested in the preservation of Montana's fishing. Hundreds of them cross the Idaho panhandle into Montana to do their angling. The law forbidding the use of salmon eggs as bait was enacted by the Montana legislature because of the abuse of the practice. Holes were baited. Illegal practices were followed and catches exceeding the limit resulted. Montana dealers in fishing tackle are likewise demonstrating their sportsmanship by declining to have anything to do with the forbidden bait.

The announcement by Mr. Little, who is well known throughout the northwest because of his ardent efforts in behalf of fish and game, is published in his fisherman's bulletin as follows:

"While we have sold thousands of dollars worth of salmon egg products in Montana in the past ten years, there is now a law in effect which prohibits the sale or use of salmon eggs and spawn or a product of salmon eggs.

"It has always been our policy to comply with laws and for that reason we will not ship into Montana any baits or any type of fishing tackle contrary to the laws of the state.

"In the state of Washington there is a law prohibiting the use of live minnows. For years our business in this line amounted to thousands of dollars a year. When this law went into effect two years ago, the sale of minnows was gladly discontinued, even though it meant considerable revenue."

"When you fish with a fly, if it is possible, let no part of your line touch the water, but your fly only."—Izaak Walton.

FISH DIET TO TRIM EXPENSES

HATCHERY-reared fish of Michigan may go on a diet, not to reduce their own girth, but that of the expense budget of the department of conservation's fish division, says a bulletin of the American Game Association. By converting its trout to vegetarianism or even to tolerance of dried meats, the department can save on refrigeration and transportation expenses, especially as to isolated feeding stations. The usual food for trout in the past has been beef and sheep liver, beef hearts and other fresh meats ground up, costing about \$30,000 annually. Now hatcheries are experimenting with oatmeal, clam, fish and shrimp meal, dried salmon eggs and dried meats, including horse flesh.

This is part of the economy programs forced upon most state conservation departments by slashes in their budgets for the coming year. Wisconsin, after failing to obtain passage of a resident fishing law, has cut all conservation activities except that of forestry from 30 to 55 per cent. Nine fish hatcheries will be closed entirely and two more practically closed.

The happiest man alive is the one who gets what he earns and earns what he gets.

BARBLESS HOOK PROVIDES SPORT

WHILE violations for catching undersized fish are reported increasing as the season advances, more and more real sportsmen are resorting to the barbless hook, playing their fish and releasing them after a good fight without ever taking them from the water. The "minnow catchers" have been so busy this season that R. G. Parvin, game and fish commissioner of Colorado, among others, has issued an appeal for better sportsmanship.

"Trout under seven inches are not fit for human consumption," Mr. Parvin said, "and when one is caught it should be carefully removed from the hook with wet hands and returned gently to the stream. If handled with dry hands, the protective film of the fish will be removed and a fungus will gather, which eventually kills the fish.

"Real sportsmen are doing all possible to stop the catching of 'short fish,' for they know that these little fish will be large enough to afford better sport if left in the stream another year or two."



Season on Chinks and Huns In November



MONTANA'S Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges are reported thriving in the major portion of the state where they have been liberated and the Fish and Game Commission

has provided an open season this year extending five days through Nov. 8-12. The open season starts on Sunday for the benefit of sportsmen who are unable to leave their work during the week. The limit is five birds of which not more than three shall be male Chinese pheasants in counties open to both Chinks and Huns. In counties open to Huns only, the limit is five of either sex. Only the Chinese roosters may be killed, the hens being protected. Hungarians of either sex may be bagged.

In making the order opening the season, the commission directed that the season be opened in the same counties

as in 1930, unless objections are made, making provision that sportsmen of other counties desiring the open season may secure permission by placing their petitions in the hands of State Fish and Game Warden Robert H. Hill before Sept. 10.

Counties open to shooting of male Chinese pheasants last year were: Beaverhead, Big Horn, Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Cascade, Chouteau, Custer, Deer Lodge, Fergus, Flathead, Lake except that portion drained by the Jocko river and tributaries; Lewis and Clark, Missoula south of a line running east and west through the town of Lolo; Park, Petroleum, Phillips, Powell, Ravalli except that portion of the county covered by the Bitter Root Stock Farm; Sanders in that portion drained by the Little Bitter Root river; Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, and Yellowstone.

Counties open to shooting Hungarians of either sex in 1930 were: Beaverhead, Blaine, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill; all that portion of Lake county except that drained by the Jocko river and tributaries; Lewis and Clark; all of Missoula county south of a line running east and west through the town of Lolo; Park, Phillips, Pondera, Powell, Ravalli except that portion covered by the Bitter Root Stock Farm; that portion of Sanders county drained by the Little Bitter Root river, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Teton and Yellowstone.

During 1930 operations at the State Game Farm at Warm Springs made possible the liberation of more than 6,000 Chinese pheasants. This modern miracle was performed less than one year after the farm was established. In 1931 thus far, more than 5,000 have already been liberated and the work is continuing with the total expected to be far in excess of the number released in 1930.

Instructions are being sent to deputy game wardens and leaders of sportsmen's clubs by State Game Warden

Robert H. Hill, notifying them of the action of the State Fish and Game Commission in closing the entire state for 1931 to the shooting of upland game birds. This action was taken following a careful survey of all portions of the state, conducted by deputy wardens, to ascertain the increase or decrease of blue grouse, quail, prairie chicken, too hen, ruffed grouse or native pheasant, sharp-tailed grouse and sage hen. The survey indicates that, under the closed season ordered by the commission in prior years, that some varieties of game birds are increasing while others are just holding their own in the face of natural conditions during extended dry months.

On request of sportsmen of 13 counties, an early season of three days on sage grouse was recently granted by the commission, August 16-17-18. Satisfactory bags have been reported from the majority of areas.

Sam Sharman Wins Honors In Utah

IN WINNING the four 1931 trapshooting titles of Utah, Sam H. Sharman of Salt Lake City, who is well known to Montana sportsmen, not only set a record for the year but probably an all-time mark as well when he broke 393 targets out of 400 to annex the state all-around championship.

Sharman, who has always rated as one of the country's leading target breakers, won the state singles championship with 198 out of 200. Then he came back to the firing line and broke the remarkable score of 96 out of 100 at doubles to win that title. Not content with these two performances, Sam stood on the 24-yard line and broke 99 out of 100 to have himself crowned handicap champion of Utah.

The Salt Lake City marksman has always been among the leaders and although he shoots at more targets than the average marksman, Sam's average each year is tough to beat. He was a member of the American Olympic team that won the team race championship in 1924, has served as a member of the executive committee of the Amateur Trapshooting Association and is still active in boosting the sport throughout the west and northwest.

Sharman's score of 198 in the singles gave him a place on the Utah team in the state team race at the Grand American Handicap championship tournament of the Amateur Trapshooting Association, August 24 to 29, at Vandalia, Ohio.

Mrs. N. H. Gitsch of Salt Lake City won the ladies' title of Utah at single targets with 73x100 white Ted Renfro of Delt, Montana, was high-over-all for the Utah tournament with 595 out of 600 targets.

Farmer Is Help In Saving Fish

SPORTSMANSHIP is a live, virile element in the makeup of Montana farmers interested in the preservation of fish and game, if the splendid work of A. E. Cramer, manager of the renowned Green Meadow farms at Helena, may be taken as a criterion. For years Mr. Cramer has been associated with the late Harry W. Childs in the management of his agricultural areas. Mrs. Childs is now directing head. With hot weather and hot winds drying up creeks and streams, Montana's trout have been fighting a losing battle. Tributaries of the Little Blackfoot, one of the best trout streams in western Montana, have been closed by the State Fish and Game Commission. Little water is now running down the stream. To aid in furnishing the stream with sufficient water to prevent landlocking of trout, Mr. Cramer has not only shut off a large part of the irrigation on the Buckmiller place operated by Green Meadow farms near Elliston, but has installed a substantial fish screen at the mouth of the big ditch which supplies his farm crops on that ranch.

"The Little Blackfoot is a splendid stream and I for one want to do what I can to save it," said Mr. Cramer. "It might mean a few tons of hay or a lighter crop but I am more than willing to cooperate with the State Fish and Game Department in making this sacrifice in order that the fish may live and thrive. If all the water is taken out by farmers for irrigating purposes, the fish will disappear, and farmers are equally interested in conservation movements with city sportsmen. Mrs. Childs is interested and I know that I am following her desire in this matter."

Reverie

How sweet it is to laze and lie
'Neath leafy trees and clear blue sky,
And listen to a cold swift stream
Go bubbling through each light day-dream.

And watch the clouds drift by.

How lucky he, who is carefree,
Who lives his life in reverie,
Who never has a tear or pain
Or damning thought of fame or gain.

And knows no law but liberty.



Upper Sun River Stocked In 1895



MEMORIES of fish planting expeditions 35 and 40 years ago, during the days when improved highways were dreams and trails in the forests were few, were brought back to

a party of Helena sportsmen in thrilling manner a few weeks ago when they were airplane passengers on a jaunt to the South Fork country. With Red Morrison of Helena at the controls, the airplane party flew over Scapegoat mountain, covering the trail that required four days to traverse with fish cans 36 years ago, in just 40 minutes. Fishing in the famed Sun River canyon in the Great Falls area is traced by sportsmen to the days when the first plant of trout was made there by Fred Naegele and Frank Hirsch of Helena and J. L. B. Meyers of Augusta.

"It was a joy to fly to fish in the South Fork of the Flathead," said Fred Naegele, "in the realization that we were making the trip in 40 minutes as against the four days required some 40 years ago. Incidentally the South Fork and the Middle Fork are teeming with fish. It is the last great untrammelled region left in Montana and is a paradise for big game as well as fighting trout."

The story of the first plant of trout in the Sun river is told in an article published in the Great Falls Tribune of August 21, 1927, this clipping being cherished by Mr. Naegele and his associates. The story reads as follows:

While it is not generally known that previous to the year 1885 there were no fish that inhabited the waters of the North Fork of the Sun river and its tributaries, above what is known as the Sun river falls, it is nevertheless within the memory of Indians and early settlers who explored the mountains in that country, that nature failed to provide fish life in the streams above these falls, and that it was left to the genius of mankind in later years to supply this necessity for future generations.

All of that country ranging back of the Sun river falls to the Continental divide was in primitive days known as the "happy hunting ground" of the red man and game was abundant, but for some unknown reason the streams were barren of life and the Indians seemingly made no effort to assist nature in supplying this need, contenting themselves with fishing below the falls or in other domains.

Many theories for this phenomena have been advanced, the most plausible being that of the Indians that at some early period of the earth's transformation, great volcanic eruptions destroyed all life in the upper waters of the mountain streams and dammed the lower canyons, forming a series of swift cataracts, which fish could not navigate to higher levels; another version is that the numerous hot springs

which flow into the Sun river, tempered the water to a state of warmth that fish would not inhabit, and thus prevented their going up stream for spawning or propagating purposes. But be that as it may, present-day culture found a substitute, in supplying the faults of nature and lack of primitive methods.

Early trappers and hunters to the head waters of Sun river recall what was known as the "gorge" at the entrance of the canyon to the falls; here the trail wound around precipitous cliffs, allowing for a narrow gorge with but a few feet opening at the ground levels, while deep down the surface flow of the waters seemed to expand under huge boulders and rock formations which could not be explored. Up

to this point fish life was abundantly in evidence, but above and for some distance beyond, numerous cataracts and warm springs impeded further progress of trout up streams, or of other fish native to these waters below the falls.

Previous to the year of 1895, J. L. B. Meyers, of Augusta, and Frank Hirsch and Fred Naegele of Helena, had made several hunting trips into the interior of the Sun river country, and while on these trips they observed the barrenness of the streams of fish life; it was this that prompted them to plan the stocking of these streams with trout fry. In due course of time their applications for trout fry through government channels was granted, and in the fall of 1895 a consignment of fingerlings was delivered from the fish hatchery at Bozeman to Craig on the Great Northern railroad. From there they were transported by Hirsch via stage route to the ranch of Judge Meyers at Augusta, where Naegele and Meyers transferred the cans to another wagon, and the overland journey was continued to the foot of the mountains on Ford creek, where pack horses were secured at Nixon brothers' ranch. The fry was again transferred to specially built pack cans secured from Helena, and after two days and two nights of almost continuous travel, covering a route of approximately 100 miles, the fish were planted along the head waters and tributaries of Sun river, taking in Straight creek, Bear creek, Wood creek, South Fork of the West Fork and the West Fork of Sun river, back to the beaver dams at the base of Scapegoat mountain.

At that time the Bozeman fish hatchery was the only one of its kind in Montana, this being many years before the inauguration of the present system of state fish hatcheries under the direction of a state fish and game commission. Many hardships were endured by the men named who undertook this venture, as the fry had to be kept constantly in motion and freshly watered en route, with the remarkable small loss of only about 50 fry of 3,000 in the original consignment. Subsequent to this first expedition, others living in the Augusta country followed similar experiments, with the result that practically all of the streams tributary to the North Fork of Sun river now teem with trout of many varieties.

J. L. B. Meyers of Augusta passed on to his reward several years ago, while Naegele and Hirsch still live in Helena, and expect to reap the fruits of their efforts at some future time, and enjoy a genuine fishing trip along the streams which they helped seed to posterity.

NOAH HAD HIS TROUBLES

When Noah sailed the waters blue,
He had his troubles, same as you;
For forty days he drove the ark
Before he found a place to park.

Kindness Saves Swan



WHEN this big swan was shot and wounded by a careless hunter on Flathead lake last fall, the majestic white bird flopped its way into seclusion. While suffering from its wounds it wandered around the east shore for a time until it found its way to the hospitable home of J. J. Rosenberger. Here the swan was nursed back to strength and health and became a member of the family. The big bird was a feature of the State Fish and Game exhibit at the Montana State Fair at Helena. The swan is protected by law and if reasonable care is shown by hunters they will at no time be confused with the smaller snow geese.



Montana Duck Season Opens October 1st



ONTANA duck hunters who have been crawling out of the hay before the arrival of the milkman on Sept. 16 in late years, to join the boom-bang crew in the tutles in opening

the season on migratory waterfowl, must delay their 1931 jaunt. They must revise their duck shooting tactics and start firing at noon Oct. 1, or wait until the grey dawn of Oct. 2, because morning comes at noon on the opening day this year as far as the quacks are concerned. To co-operate with federal action cutting 15 days from the front end of the duck season, Montana's State Fish and Game Commission has ordered that the Montana season conform and will open at noon Oct. 1.

The hunting season on ducks, whose numbers have been seriously depleted by drought, was shortened to one month by a proclamation issued by President Hoover Aug. 25.

The proclamation also applies to geese, brant and coots throughout the United States and Alaska.

Canadian authorities are expected by the biological survey to take similar action soon. The principal breeding grounds in northwestern United States and in western and southwestern Canada have been dried up by drought over the last three years.

In the northern part of the United States, except Alaska, the season, under the new regulations, will open Oct. 1 and close Oct. 31.

In the south the season opens Nov. 16 and closes Dec. 15, except in Florida where it will begin Nov. 20 and continue until Dec. 19.

The Alaskan season will be from Sept. 1 to Sept. 30.

Under the old regulations the length of the seasons averaged about three months.

Drought conditions in the principal feeding grounds, the biological survey said, convinced federal and dominion conservation officials that "irreparable damage would result if measures were not adopted at once to reduce the kill and to preserve an adequate stock of birds for breeding."

Reports reaching headquarters at Helena indicate that Montana, like other states and provinces, faces a serious shortage of waterfowl because of the long dry months, receding waters and the death toll of ducklings taken during the nesting season when water in lakes and potholes went down to leave the little fellows stranded.

Recommendations have been made to the Department of Agriculture by organizations of sportsmen of national prominence, urging that a 30-day season be fixed and that the fish and game commissions of each state be permitted to set their own dates. This plan would eliminate complaint that arises from the early freezeup in the north

resulting in little shooting, while the birds migrate southward to winter areas populated by southern gunners who derive the benefit. Fifteen ducks and four geese is the daily limit and shooting is permitted 30 minutes before sunrise, extending to the sunset hour.

The critical situation facing ducks in the breeding areas of North Dakota and the western Canadian provinces was responsible for a conference held in Bismarck, N. D., July 18. The action taken at this meeting may have a far reaching effect.

The meeting was called by Mr. Maurek, game and fish commissioner of North Dakota, and those in attendance were T. W. Laidlaw, assistant deputy minister of the Department of Mines and Natural Resources of Manitoba; S. E. McColl, director of surveys of the same department; Thomas N. Marlowe of Missoula, chairman of the Montana Fish and Game Commission; W. D. Stewart, game and fish commissioner of Minnesota; and Fred H. Hildebrandt, Charles Boreson, A. G. McBride, Pot Adams, commissioners of South Dakota, and Oscar H. Johnson, director of game and fish of South Dakota.

The plight of migratory waterfowl, and especially wild ducks, was discussed from many angles, and the final result of the conference was the unanimous approval of a resolution calling for a 30-day open season on ducks throughout the United States and Canada, with a bag limit of 10 and a possession limit of 20 ducks, and the prohibition of shooting over baited grounds.

Copies of these resolutions were transmitted to the President of the United States and the Secretary of Agriculture, as well as to governmental officials of the Dominion of Canada.

While these resolutions may appear drastic in some of their provisions yet the situation existing in the breeding areas of the wild ducks is so serious that unless some prompt remedial measures are put in force the number of ducks will be reduced to a point never before known. The unprecedented drouth conditions prevailing in the Northwest this season have reduced the hatch of young ducks to a figure estimated as high as 80 per cent by experienced observers.

It is a striking coincidence that on the date of the conference in Bismarck and without previous arrangement with the commissioners of the north central states the commissioners of the western Canadian provinces met at Edmonton and adopted a resolution favoring a 30-day open season on ducks. This action was taken after a survey had been made of the situation in the duck breeding areas of Canada and the conditions found to warrant immediate relief measures.

Those present at the conference in Bismarck pledged themselves to use all

of their efforts to bring about a Presidential Proclamation which will embody the provisions of these resolutions.

While under existing regulations the sportsmen of the northern states have a 90-day season extending from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, in reality weather conditions and the early coming of winter limit the open season to approximately 30 days. In view of the emergency existing and in a spirit of fairness and equity it would appear that a uniform open season of 30 days throughout the United States will be equitable.

A public hearing to determine whether the duck season in Wisconsin should be changed to conform with the new regulation by the United States Biological Survey was held by the conservation commission of that state, Aug. 13, in Wausau. Similar action is planned in every other state.

Recent action of the National Association of Audubon Societies in recommending to Arthur M. Hyde, United States secretary of agriculture, that a moratorium on the shooting of wildfowl be declared for one year is said to be meeting with approval in many quarters.

Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, treasurer of the Association of Audubon Societies, made the following statement:

"On July 31, 1931, the National Association of Audubon Societies issued a call for a nation-wide closed season on the shooting of waterfowl during 1931-32. The reason put forward for such drastic action was that prolonged drought conditions in the northwestern United States and adjacent parts of Canada have very seriously interfered with the reproduction of wild ducks of many species.

"New information, resulting from an investigation by representatives of the United States Biological Survey and Canadian officials, makes the outlook even more discouraging than was previously feared. Three seasons of persistent drought have marked the climax of not less than 10 years of reduced rainfall throughout an area in which the bulk of our migrant ducks have their breeding grounds. In tours covering several thousand miles through country which in normal years produces many millions of mallards, pintails, redheads, canvasbacks, broadbills, an deal, the investigators saw only a few dozen small broods of ducks. A far-reaching inquiry of the Canadian government indicates, moreover, that the species have not moved into more remote breeding areas since so much of their homeland has turned from marshes and ponds into dusty barrens without sign of aquatic life.

FEMININE CURIOSITY

"Why is Mabel so angry? The papers gave a full account of her wedding."

"Yes, but they put in that Miss Backfield was married to the well known collector of antiques."



Fish Wheels In Irrigation Ditches Save Trout



AVING game fish by installation of revolving fish wheels in irrigation ditches of Montana means much to sportsmen. Installation of one of the first of the largest test wheels

has been completed by the State Fish and Game Department in the big ditch leading out of the famed Madison river, several miles above Ennis and reports indicate that the device is functioning efficiently. Plans are under way for the installation of similar wheels.

Co-operation between Montana farmers and the state department has attained results and in many instances farmers are installing devices of their own to prevent the game fish from running down irrigating ditches, only to die on parched fields with the waters receding.

Similar work is being conducted in the state by the United States Bureau of Fisheries. Plans of the federal department call for installation of wheels on the Jocko project and in the Sun river area near Great Falls, the pre-



Reverse view of the fish screen wheels on the Madison river ditch, showing the screened wheels and protection against floating debris. The wheel is arranged in such manner that chips and branches pass over without damage.

in other parts of the state are laying similar plans.

The installation of these fish wheels in irrigating ditches throughout the state means the eventual saving of millions of game fish annually.

WILD LIFE INSPIRES

Wild life has a spiritual value, believes a Chicago preacher. But in this case wild life means the wild creatures of the outdoor spaces. And the preacher is Dr. Preston Bradley, sportsman and pastor of the Peoples' Church of Chicago, who was recently named president of the Izaak Walton League of America.

"I am interested in restoring wild life for its great spiritual value in attracting people into the outdoors for inspiring, health-giving recreation," he said when he prepared for his yearly fishing and outing trip to the lakeland wilds of the Superior National Forest of Minnesota.

It was close to the time for the celebrated guest to make his after-dinner speech. The chairman, looking around the table, went over to the famous man and whispered: "Do you think you'd better begin your speech now or shall we let them enjoy themselves a little longer?"

Dearborn Pond Is Stocked With Trout

MONTANA'S State Fish and Game Department has made possible the creation of an ideal rearing pond on a spring creek tributary to the Dearborn river and the planting of 24,000 Rainbow trout fingerlings to be retained there until of proper size for release. W. A. Brown of Great Falls, member of the State Fish and Game Commission aided by sportsmen of the community, anticipates wholesome results. Natural water areas capable of caring for a series of additional ponds are available. Fresh water shrimp and other natural fish food is plentiful. The pond is now populated by 24,000 Rainbow trout, is 75 by 200 feet, and has been created by the erection of a concrete dyke and the installation of a fish screen. It is 17 miles southwest of Augusta and about 75 miles from Great Falls. Fingerling trout placed in the pond were hatched and reared at the Giant Springs hatchery at Great Falls.

"The rearing pond is fed by a crystal cold spring creek," said Kenneth F. MacDonald, superintendent of state fisheries, "and the trout will have the opportunity of going up this creek to spawn. The site on the Ole Bean property near Bean's lake, is well adapted and the fish are thriving. They will be liberated when they have attained desired size for the benefit of anglers in the Great Falls area. In case of emergency when waters recede in feeder streams we have completed arrangements so that the waters of the Dearborn river may be turned into the pond."

Salvation Army Girl (to Scotchman):
"Will you give a quarter for the Lord?"
"How and are ye, Lassie?"
"Eighteen."
"Ah, well, I'm seventy-five. I'll be seem' Him afore you, and I'll hand it to Him myself."



Front view of fish wheel in big ditch leaving the Madison river near Ennis, showing paddle wheels and concrete work. Screened wheels are installed immediately back of the protecting paddle wheels.

liminary work having been done under supervision of U. B. Gilroy.

Screens have been installed and are operating in Rattlesnake creek near Missoula where the M. R. Jeffrys wheel is being tested, in two ditches on Lolo creek near Missoula where the J. P. Doyle wheel is functioning and in the Daly ditch near Hamilton where Missoula and Hamilton sportsmen worked together to finance and complete the device.

Members of the Anaconda Anglers Club have made a substantial appropriation to finance the installation of a wheel in a ditch leading out of the Big Hole river; members of the Big Timber Sportsmen's Club are planning a wheel similar to that installed in the Madison in a ditch leading from the Boulder river and foresighted anglers

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Aristocrats of Montana's Fields

This Month's Cover.

MONTANA sportsmen, keenly alert to the possibilities of field shooting being built up by the State Fish and Game Department through liberation of Chinese pheasants and the propagation of Hungarian partridges, are expending thousands of dollars in developing thoroughbred, highly trained hunting dogs to enable their masters to enjoy to the full their days in the open.

In this month's cover MONTANA WILD LIFE presents an unusual photograph of a group of noble setters owned by Dr. Beryl C. Shearer of Helena. Highland Aviator and Helen of Berkley, the adults, are well proud of the litter of six baby Llewellyns romping around their guardians at the kennels at the home of George L. Gruner, 313 Pine, Helena. Both adult setters were purchased by Dr. Shearer and brought to Helena as the foundation stock for his Llewellyn and English setter kennels. The pups shown in the picture were sired by Missouri Dash, owned by Guy F. Saunders of Bozeman. Helen of Berkeley, known as "Cady," shown in the picture, is the mother of the happy half dozen.

"With the co-operation of Mr. Saunders of Bozeman, we are endeavoring to breed up a strain of gentlemen's hunting dogs of such temperament as to be easily trained and broken to Montana shooting conditions," said Dr. Shearer. "The field trial dog, trained to make a long dash to a point several hundred yards from the gun, is not the dog for Montana bird shooting. We are striving instead to raise thoroughbreds taught to hunt within gun range, schooled to the whistle and educated to retrieve, obey quickly and remain within sight and call at all times in the field. Results are being accomplished.

The family tree of Helen of Berkeley (126289), known to her master as "Cady," traces her lineage back to the famous Mohawk II, famed among dog lovers throughout the nation as champion of champions in field trials. The father of Helen of Berkeley was Swift Hawk and her mother Auntie Peach. Swift Hawk's parents were Glad Hawk and Allfire Alive. The parents of Auntie Peach were General Nogi and Harry Lady Bess. The parents of Glad Hawk were Mohawk II and Redfield Lady Danstone, while Allfire Alive was the daughter of Master Ben and Lady Dorothy.

Missouri Dash (174833) sire of the beautiful litter of pups mothered by Helen of Berkeley, is owned by Guy F. Saunders of Bozeman, whose activities in breeding gentlemen's hunting dogs are also attaining gratifying results. His lineage is traced back to the Mallwyd strain as well as through Mohawk and Whiskaway breedings. Missouri Dash is the son of the imported Crackshot, brought to this country from England, and Queen Donstone. The parents of Crackshot were Mallwyd Roy and Mon Ami Megg. Beachley Haig and Mallwyd Linda were the parents

of Mallwyd Roy while Garth House Radiant and Peggy of Ireby, both imported Scotch dogs, were the parents of Mon Ami Megg.

On the mother's side, Queen Donstone is the daughter of Mohawk Whitestone Budd and Nutmeg Whiskaway. Mohawk Whitestone and Ben's Belle were the parents of Mohawk Whitestone Budd, while Hobby Mohawk Jack and Crescendo Nellie were the parents of Nutmeg Whiskaway. All are dogs noted for their splendid field characteristics.

Sagebrush Philosophy

By Larry Hamilton of Butte

The biggest critic of the Fish and Game Department is usually the smallest contributor.

Ignorance of the law on the part of justices of the peace is no excuse to release fish and game law violators.

A rattlesnake can be killed, but a fish hog is allowed to live.

Every dollar expended for fish and game propagation pays compound interest in healthful recreation.

Montana needs less fishermen and hunters, and more sportsmen.

A fish in a rearing pond is worth a dozen in a large trout's stomach.

Game wardens are human. Help them to enforce the law.

Boys of today are the sportsmen of tomorrow. Help conserve the fish and game for them.

The worst racketeer is the man who will take more than the law allows. He robs you and your children.

Some fishermen are too stingy to give their children middle names.

The man who lives unto himself does not receive the fullest measure of enjoyment from life.

Criticize your local sportsman's club, if you will, but first join it and pay your dues.

Take two cents' worth of ignorance, three cents' worth of greed, two cents' worth of contempt and four cents' worth of unadulterated selfishness, clothe it with a coat of slime, and you have a fish hog.

Support the Fish and Game Department. It is supporting sport for 80,000 or 90,000 fishermen and hunters.

The man who would blast fish, would steal a crust of bread from his own mother.

Man is the weakest and most helpless animal in the world.

The Montana Fish and Game Commission is the point of contact between sportsmen and the fish and game of Montana.

Read Montana Wild Life and then boost it to your friends. It tells you what your Fish and Game Department is doing.

Pioneer Protects Montana Game

AFTER devoting 47 years to the development of Montana, F. P. Adams of Craig, has not lost his desire to protect fish and game resources of the state, nor does he overlook any opportunity to extend a helping hand.

"Whitetail does and their fawns are daily seen along both sides of the highway near the Dearborn bridge between Helena and Great Falls and I fear for their safety," writes Mr. Adams in outlining the situation to the State Fish and Game Department at Helena. "The deer are growing tame and I don't like to see them killed, hence I wish to cooperate with the department in protecting them," he continues. "The Dearborn river is low and some fish are suffering. The water temperature is 70 at five o'clock in the evening. If there is anything I can do to aid in saving the fish and game I will be glad to do so. I have been a resident of Montana since 1884—nearly half a century."

Daily demonstrations of sportsmanship such as this are called to the attention of members of the State Fish and Game Commission. Hundreds of residents who formerly "let George do it" are now taking a hand in the task of preserving Montana's natural resources.

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Name

Address

Date.....



Time Table For Montana Duck Hunters

OFFICIAL sunrise and sunset hours, presented herewith for the guidance of Montana duck hunters by MONTANA WILD LIFE, have been arranged by authorities of the United States weather bureau at Helena. All authentic calculations of times of sunrise and sunset are for flat horizons, hence allowance must be made for irregularities of the horizon. For lakes east and west of Helena variations of a few minutes must be made. The law protecting migratory waterfowl provides that shooting may start ONE-HALF HOUR BEFORE SUNRISE, hence the zero hour may be computed by subtracting 30 minutes from the time stated. Shooting must stop at sunset.

For communities east and west of Helena, the sunrise and sunset hours may be fixed by allowing four minutes for each degree of longitude or 60 minutes for each 15 degrees. Montana's eastern and western boundaries are marked by the 104th to 116th degree of longitude, and by 45-49 latitude. Between the eastern and western boundaries there is a difference of 48 minutes in the sunrise and sunset time—this being another demonstration of the magnitude of the area of the state. Sunrise at Missoula, for instance, is eight minutes later than at Helena.

The 1931 season opens at noon, October 1, and closes in Montana at sunset October 31. To comply with the federal ruling, the Montana State Fish and Game Commission has directed that the former opening date, Sept. 16, be postponed to noon, Oct. 1.

The bag limit is 15 ducks, four geese or brant. A narrow strip of northwestern Montana comes within the area

covered by Pacific coast time, hence allowance of one hour should be made there.

When in doubt call or write the State Fish and Game Department at Helena. Because of the nation-wide demand for additional protection for disappearing migratory waterfowl, other revisions may be made.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET FOR HELENA AND VICINITY October

	Sunrise	Sunset
1	Noon	6:08 p.m.
2	6:28 a.m.	6:06 p.m.
3	6:30 a.m.	6:04 p.m.
4	6:31 a.m.	6:02 p.m.
5	6:32 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
6	6:34 a.m.	5:58 p.m.
7	6:35 a.m.	5:57 p.m.
8	6:36 a.m.	5:55 p.m.
9	6:38 a.m.	5:53 p.m.
10	6:39 a.m.	5:51 p.m.
11	6:41 a.m.	5:49 p.m.
12	6:42 a.m.	5:47 p.m.
13	6:44 a.m.	5:45 p.m.
14	6:45 a.m.	5:43 p.m.
15	6:46 a.m.	5:41 p.m.
16	6:48 a.m.	5:40 p.m.
17	6:49 a.m.	5:38 p.m.
18	6:50 a.m.	5:36 p.m.
19	6:52 a.m.	5:34 p.m.
20	6:53 a.m.	5:32 p.m.
21	6:55 a.m.	5:31 p.m.
22	6:56 a.m.	5:29 p.m.
23	6:58 a.m.	5:27 p.m.
24	6:59 a.m.	5:25 p.m.
25	7:01 a.m.	5:23 p.m.
26	7:02 a.m.	5:22 p.m.
27	7:04 a.m.	5:20 p.m.
28	7:05 a.m.	5:18 p.m.
29	7:07 a.m.	5:17 p.m.
30	7:08 a.m.	5:15 p.m.
31	7:10 a.m.	5:14 p.m.

Bass Rescue Work In the Flathead

BASS rescue work in the sloughs caused by backwater from Flathead lake, near Somers, is saving thousands of fighting game fish for sportsmen of Montana, under direction of the State Fish and Game Department. Crews of trained fish culturists employed by the state department, have been working in receding waters along the Flathead river. The work has turned to shallow waters in sloughs along the lake shore, according to Kenneth F. MacDonald, superintendent of state fisheries.

"The work of the bass rescue crews along Flathead lake is intensely interesting because of the speed and efficiency with which they must operate," said Mr. MacDonald. "In one instance where the waters had backed up into a natural bay filled with grass, evaporation was showing its effect when the crews arrived. They hurriedly assembled their equipment but within a short time the lake water had receded to such an extent that only the holes made by the hoofs of horses and cattle while watering, were filled. But the baby bass were game to the last drop of water and had congregated in these hoof prints in the mud. The rescue crews dipped a hatful of bass minnows out of each of several hundred hoof prints and thereby saved many fish for the sportsmen. The temperature of the water that day was 95 degrees."

The salvaged minnows are to be distributed in the vicinity of Browning, Lake Francis at Valier, Lake Como near Hamilton, Gravelly Range lake in Lewis and Clark county and other bass waters.

WHAT WAS THE VERDICT?

The prosecuting counsel had encountered a rather difficult witness. At length, exasperated by the man's evasive answers, he asked him if he was satisfied with any of the jury.

"Yes, sir," replied the witness, "more than half of them."

"Are you willing to swear that you know more than half of them?" demanded the man of law.

The other thought quickly. "If it comes to that," he replied, "I am willing to swear that I know more than all of 'em put together."

"The officer swears that you were going 50 miles an hour," the judge said. "Have you any excuse to offer for making such speed?"

"Yes, your honor," the prisoner replied. "I'm a bootlegger and your wife telephoned that she had to have a case of Scotch right away, because company had dropped in unexpectedly."

"Just think. While I was out with some of the fellows the other night, a burglar broke into our home."

"Did he get anything?"

"I'll say he did. My wife thought it was my coming home."

WHILE JUSTICE WINKS

Judge: (after giving jury instructions) —"Is there any question any one would like to ask before considering the evidence?"

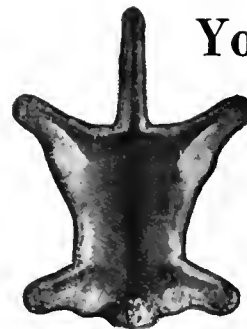
Juror: "A couple of us would like to know if the defendant boiled the malt one or two hours, and how he kept the yeast out."

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MONTANA WILD LIFE



Montana Sportsmen's Association

SPORTSMEN of Montana have many advantages over those of many other states. A good abundance of most species of fish and game is found and many species are showing a fair increase each year. Due to the vision and efforts of organized sportsmen, headed by the Montana Sportsmen's Association, and the Montana State Fish and Game Department, it is probable that there will not be a further depletion of wild life.

More than 15,000 miles of trout streams and 5,000 lakes offer the finest sport for the angler. In the several thousand miles of warm water streams and rivers, many species of warm water fish, such as bass, pike, crappies, sunfish, perch, catfish, and other species, are found. Approximately 30,000,000 trout and 300,000 warm water fish are being planted each year in an effort to keep pace with the demands of the fisherman.

The western part of Montana is a sportsman's paradise. The 16,000,000 acres or more of national forests and several hundred thousand acres of other forests offer the best big game hunting in the United States. Deer and elk are increasing. There are over 5,000 black and 550 grizzly bear in the state. During the average winter, several thousand elk from the Yellowstone Park herd, numbering about 12,000 head, winter in Montana. Organized sportsmen and the State Fish and Game Department have had much to do with the perpetuation of the Yellowstone Park herd. Moose, mountain sheep and mountain goats are showing a fair increase each year and the antelope are holding their own.

An abundance of fur-bearing animals such as beaver, fox, marten, mink, otter and others is to be found. Few states have to contend with as big a problem as offered by the destruction of birds and game by predatory animals. It is estimated that 6,000 deer are killed by predators each year. Many clubs are assisting the state department in the control of predatory birds and animals.

It can hardly be said that the grouse and prairie chickens are holding their own, but the sage hen offers good shooting in most territories. Hungarian partridges are increasing rapidly. The State Game Farm was started two years ago, releasing over 6,000 Chinese pheasants last year and around 10,000 Chinese pheasants will be released this year. Some quail have also been liberated.

Many states have waited until a near depletion of its wild life occurred before taking steps to preserve and protect it properly. For the past 11 years state organizations have been working in Montana to build up a greater abundance and prevent depletion of wild life. A large educational program is being carried on by the state association and they are showing seven reels of

wild life motion pictures taken by the State Fish and Game Department.

Forty sportsmen's clubs will be affiliated with the state association this year in helping to carry out the program. The state association represents about 85 per cent of the organized sportsmen.

Montana is considered a state of "Wide Open Spaces." It is the third largest state with less than 600,000 population. It would hardly seem possible that the sportsmen would be concerned over a game policy at this time. A suitable game policy has been given consideration for several months and a committee appointed to study conditions and formulate such a policy. The organized sportsmen do not intend to wait until 25 to 40 per cent of privately owned lands are posted against fishing and hunting before taking action.

The association is already working on another important project in the hope of securing public domain lands in the state for refuges and public fishing, hunting and recreational areas. It is, at all times, keeping in mind the perpetuation of the wild life in the state and the welfare of the future generation of sportsmen.

It is hoped that it will be possible to adopt a policy that will be for the greatest benefit of all concerned. Also that it will not be necessary to put the wild life of the state, which belongs to all of the people, on a dollar and cents basis out of reach of the boys of today and those of the future.

ASSISTING MEMBERSHIPS

THE latest assisting membership was received from Horacell Koessler of the Gordon Ranch, Seeley Lake P. O. This was a Contributing Membership in the amount of \$50 and was accompanied with the following letter:

"I believe that your work has done a great deal toward bettering the wild life and recreational conditions of Montana and am only too glad to make a contribution which will serve to perpetuate the great resources. I hope my contribution of fifty dollars will help to swell this worthy fund."

Other assisting memberships received during July were Associate Memberships from Ernest Miller, proprietor of the Elkhorn Ranch, Bozeman and the Dude Ranchers Association in the amounts of \$10 each.

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

THE Billings Rod and Gun Club and the Forsyth Rod and Gun Club remitted for their 1931 dues during July. It is hoped that all affiliated clubs will have paid their dues by September 1 as the association has an active program outlined for the fall months.

Riggs: "When was the baby born?"

Jiggs: "Between the second payment on the radio and the tenth on the auto."

CLUB ACTIVITIES

THE Plains Rod and Gun Club has been reorganized with W. S. Baker as president and Lee Stohr as secretary, and has a membership of 40. The club is active in stocking streams and the destruction of predatory birds and animals.

The Choteau Rod and Gun Club with Harrison Craig as president and George Cox as secretary, is taking advantage of every opportunity to better conditions in that territory. A rearing pond has been constructed within the city limits and the club is interested in the propagation of upland birds and the installation of fish screens. Choteau has a population of about 1,000 and when the wild life pictures were shown there this spring 700 turned out to see them.

The Alberton Rod and Gun Club has recently become affiliated with the association with a membership of 20. The club is interested in conditions affecting deer and fish. The officers are E. J. McClain, president, and E. R. Bennett, secretary.

The Western Montana Fish and Game Association of Missoula with more than 600 members is carrying on an unusual number of activities this year. Several fish screens have been installed and a rearing pond is being considered. The Missoula club has the support of the entire community.

The Forsyth Rod and Gun Club has a membership this year numbering more than 130. The club is headed by A. J. Freeman as president and H. B. Olson as secretary. Judge Freeman, who is an ardent sportsman, is well known over the state for his untiring efforts in the interest of fish and game matters.

The Billings Rod and Gun Club successfully added another completed major activity to its long list by staging one of the most successful state trap-shooting tournaments ever held in Montana. The Billings club has one of the finest club houses and shooting grounds in the country. They boast a membership of over 1,000 this year and they are not overlooking any activities that will help to perpetuate the wild life of Montana. The 1932 state shoot will be held at Helena.

PICTURES AT BILLINGS

SERVICE clubs of Billings are taking advantage of furnishing interesting entertainment by showing the Montana wild life pictures which are the property of the Montana State Fish and Game Department. The following groups saw the pictures during July: Kiwanis, 65 attending; Rotary, 60; Eastern Montana Normal School, 450; and the Billings Polytechnic Institute, 125.

These pictures are available to everybody in the state and it is hoped that those wishing the pictures will send their requests to the State Fish and Game Department at Helena. These pictures are of the standard commercial size.