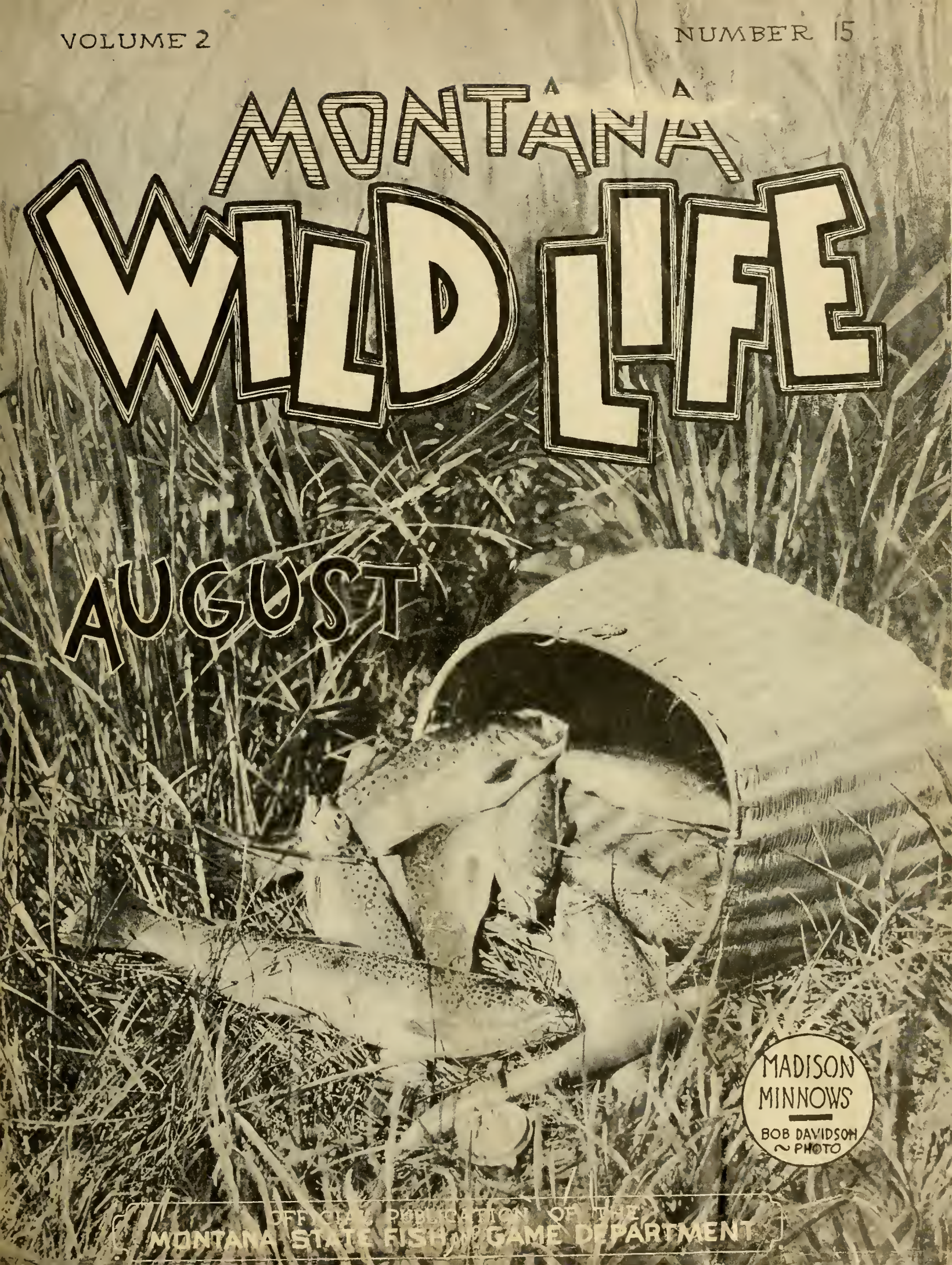


VOLUME 2

NUMBER 15

MONTANA WILD LIFE

AUGUST



MADISON
MINNOWS
—
BOB DAVIDSON
~ PHOTO

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MONTANA STATE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

The Call of the West



*I'm tired of man-made cities
With their soot and grime and smoke,
I'm tired of man-made buildings
Of streets and noise and folk.*

*I am longing for the mountains
And for the night bird's lonely call,
For the fragrance of the spruces
With the moonlight over all.*

*I would tramp some trail a-winding
Through the forests deep and still,
Where the bird notes mingle softly
With the babble of a rill.*

*I would dream in the lonely valleys
When they're full of hush to the brim,
Walled in by the mighty mountains
Where the light is always dim.*

*And here 'mid infinite God-like spaces
I would wander adrift like a cloud,
Never jostled nor harried nor maddened
By the turbulent moiling crowd.*

*I would tune my soul to the silence
And walk mystic paths with God,
Where the dreamers and seers for ages
In peace and contentment have trod.*



MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

VOL. II.

HELENA, MONTANA, AUGUST, 1929

NO. 3

Montana Shields Upland Birds

MONTANA'S State Fish and Game Commission has again fearlessly stepped out in front in defense of wild life of the state and closed the season on upland game birds throughout Montana for 1929. Because of the scarcity of blue grouse and native pheasants members of the Commission have determined that what "seed birds" remain shall be protected. This is the second year the Commission has braved possible criticism and closed the season in order that these birds may not be totally exterminated. Some strange malady has apparently caused a scarcity of upland birds. Despite satisfactory nesting seasons they have left their old haunts and but few are reported seen, except in scattered localities. In lieu of the closed season on upland birds the Commission has declared a five-day open season on sage grouse in 17 counties, August 17-21, inclusive. These counties are listed elsewhere in this edition.

At the last meeting of the Commission matters of import in connection with the establishing of the state game farm at Warm Springs and the fish culture work being done by D. R. Crawford were of especial interest. Those attending the meeting were Thomas N. Marlowe, chairman; E. A. Wilson, J. L. Kelly and W. K. Moore, Commissioners; Robert H. Hill, State Game Warden; Field Assistants Schofield and Dr. I. H. Treece; D. R. Crawford; J. F. Hendricks, and Thomas Medanich. Commissioner Boyd of Great Falls is abroad on vacation.

Chairman Marlowe called upon Mr. Hendricks, superintendent of the state game farm, for a report of his plans, activities and ideas. Mr. Hendricks advised that he would need laborers to help construct temporary pens. He advised the Commission of quotations on Chinese pheasants and Mongolian partridges and asked that he might purchase 275 Chinese hens to raise between 4,000 and 5,000 birds next year. Mr. Hendricks was authorized to make requisition for the purchase of the necessary brood stock. It was decided to build a residence before cold weather.

Mr. Hendricks was authorized to employ labor necessary to complete pens for the brood stock.

Chairman Marlowe called upon Dr. D. R. Crawford for a report of his investigations of Montana fish hatcheries and fisheries work. It was suggested that Mr. Crawford make a detailed

written report of his work in Montana after he had completed his investigations. He suggested that the ponds at the hatchery be of concrete rather than wood; that the Big Timber hatchery be enlarged and the water capacity doubled; that the water at the Great Falls hatchery is devoid of oxygen content; that there should be a gauge to give better water control at the Great Falls hatchery; that the water supply at Emigrant is not adequate; that the closed area at Georgetown Lake be enlarged and the rest of the lake be open during the entire year, and that a plan for rearing ponds be drawn up.

Mr. Marlowe read a telegram from Clyde B. Terrell, giving the itinerary of his agent, H. J. Hubert, in making an inspection of the duck food placed in Montana. Mr. Marlowe advised he had wired that the itinerary was satisfactory and had written deputy game wardens of the dates Mr. Hubert would be in their territories.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter from Mr. Thompson of the Bozeman federal hatchery relative to handling the fish taken from the Miles City pond cultural station. Discussion followed as

to where the bass should be planted. Mr. Hill was instructed to write clubs in eastern, southeastern and northeastern Montana, telling them there will be a supply of bass, crappie and sunfish for the stocking of the waters in that vicinity, and requesting that they send in their applications immediately. During the distribution of fish from the Miles City pond cultural station Mr. Schofield was instructed to be in attendance to cooperate with the federal department in checking the plantings.

Mr. Thompson was notified that the services of the government fish car will be necessary during this distribution, and that the Commission would like to use it whenever necessary.

Mr. Marlowe read a copy of a letter which Mr. Thompson had received from the Bureau of Fisheries, stating that all applications for eastern brook trout will hereafter sent to the Fish and Game Commission for approval before filling.

Mr. Marlowe read a communication from the Montana Sportsmen's Association, in which they accepted the offer made by the Fish and Game Commission, and suggested that the Commission appoint an educational secretary or confer with them about the appointment. Mr. Hill read a letter from Glen Smith, chairman of the executive board of the Sportsmen's Association. Mr. Marlowe was authorized to meet with the State Sportsmen's Association, or their representative, in an effort to come to some understanding relative to the employment of an educational secretary.

Mr. Marlowe reported that he had purchased grain and straw to feed the birds in western Montana, which purchase had been authorized at a previous meeting. He suggested that if any of the Commissioners know of places where grain is necessary the grain should be purchased and planted.

The chairman read a letter from J. C. Seidensticker, secretary of the Twin Bridges Rod and Gun Club, stating that there are many suckers and carp in the Lower Big Hole and Jefferson Rivers. It is the desire of their club to get rid of these fish, and he asked a permit to destroy them by trapping. It was suggested that Chairman Marlowe write them for further details.

Mr. Marlowe presented a letter from the Bynum Rod and Gun Club asking for sunfish and perch to stock their

Huns and Chinks

BECAUSE of the gratifying increase of Hungarian partridges and Chinese pheasants throughout Montana, the State Fish and Game Commission is considering a short open season on these gamey birds some time in September. Last year a three-day open season, with one Sunday included, was declared on Chinese pheasants. Hungarians have been protected since they were first planted by the Commission. Sportsmen of the state interested in wild life conservation have suggested that the short open season include one Sunday, when men who are unable to leave their work during the week may enjoy a day afiel. To place the matter of opening seasons in counties before the Commission, it is necessary that clubs present petitions to be acted upon at the September meeting. The season on all upland game birds was closed throughout the state as a conservation measure because of rapidly disappearing blue grouse and native pheasants. If sportsmen of your county desire an open season on Chinese pheasants and Hungarians, get your petition on file with the Department as soon as possible so that the Commission may know the sentiment in your district.

reservoir at Bynum. It was suggested that bass from the Miles City pond cultural station and perch from the Blackfoot be planted in these waters.

Secretary Hill was authorized to write the Custer Rod and Gun Club and inform them that arrangements for the wild animal exhibit have been completed for this year, but that the board will consider the application for the 1930 exhibit at the Eastern Montana fair.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter from D. A. Patton of the Glendive Rod and Gun Club suggesting that by putting in a small dam in Fox Lake it would make an attractive place for duck shooting and fishing. Commissioner Moore was instructed to investigate and report to the Commission at the next meeting.

The Hamilton Sportsmen's Club asked that a fish ladder be installed in the dam at Hamilton so that the fish can get into the Bitter Root waters. Game Warden Hill was instructed to see that the owner of the dam be instructed to put in a ladder.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter from the Hill County Rod and Gun Club favoring the closing of all streams in Hill, Blaine and Chouteau counties, from October 1 to May 21 of each year. This matter was referred to the secretary for thorough investigation.

Mr. Marlowe advised that property owners living within the Grass Valley bird preserve, west of Missoula, had petitioned for the opening of a portion of this preserve to duck shooting, as these birds stay within the preserve in the day time and feed in surrounding fields at nightfall. Action was delayed until the next meeting.

Mr. Hill advised that a portion of the East Rosebud River had been closed when blasting was being done in building a dam. This construction work is now finished and the closed portion of the Rosebud River in Stillwater county, which was closed to fishing during the regular open season, was opened to fishing during the open season.

Mr. Hill read a telegram from the Big Horn County Rod and Gun Club asking that Dry Head Creek and tributaries in Big Horn county be closed to fishing for two years and the petition was granted.

Charles Price and the Beaverhead Sportsmen's Association asked that the closed season on Birch Creek Lakes, beginning above the ranger station and including the lakes, be extended until July 10 of each year, and the closed season on Agnes Lake be extended until July 1 of each year. The request was granted.

The request of the Big Horn County Rod and Gun Club was granted closing all of Soap Creek and its tributaries to fishing until the beginning of the open season in 1932.

Mr. Marlowe advised that he had requests to close Lake o' the Woods in Flathead county to fishing, inasmuch as it had just been restocked with rainbow by the Somers hatchery, and action was referred to Mr. Marlowe for further investigation.

Mr. Hill advised that he has a petition from the citizens of Stillwater county for the creation of a game preserve, and that he is holding a hearing on this matter in Columbus on August 2.

Mrs. Frank Leubner of Millegan, Mont., wrote stating that if she was appointed a deputy game warden with salary she would apprehend dynamiters on the Smith River. Mr. Hill advised that the Great Falls sportsmen have offered \$100 for conviction of the dynamiters. Mr. Hill was instructed to investigate.

The meeting of the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners will be held in San Francisco August 23 and 24, and Warden Hill was authorized to attend.

Mr. Hill was advised that the State Board of Examiners had granted to the Commission the use of the land requested at Warm Springs for the state game farm. No lease is necessary, but the Department may have the land available for such time as the state game farm is operated and maintained. The tract includes 15 acres south of the small lake on the west side of the Butte-Anaconda highway, extending from the highway to the Northern Pacific railway right-of-way and south along the highway and railway right-of-way. On motion of Commissioner Kelly the Commission acknowledged receipt of the resolution of the Board of Examiners and thanked the board for cooperation.

It was decided that the matter of open or closed seasons on Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges would not be discussed until the next meeting of the Commission, so sportsmen may make additional requests for open or closed seasons on these birds.

Mr. Hill read the requests received from rod and gun clubs throughout the state asking for an early open season on sage hens or sage grouse, after which the following motion was made by Commissioner Moore:

"Because of the scarcity of native upland game birds within the state, and to prevent the undue depletion of said birds, I move that the entire state be closed to the shooting of all native upland game birds for 1929, save and except on sage hens or sage grouse in the following counties: Big Horn, Petroleum, Yellowstone, Carbon, Fergus, Beaverhead, Phillips, Valley, Stillwater, Rosebud, Treasure, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Hill, Blaine, Meagher, and Mus-

selshell; and, in the above-named counties, in lieu of the regular open season on sage hens or sage grouse, that the open season on sage hens or sage grouse, for 1929, be advanced to begin with August 17 and end with August 21, both dates inclusive."

Mr. Moore recommended that the Fish and Game Commission join the Association of North Central States Game and Fish Departments. Action was approved and Mr. Moore authorized to attend the meeting of the association this year if convenient.

The Department decided to send the game and fish exhibit to the Missoula fair this year, the dates September 17-20, following the itinerary of the exhibit.

Deputy Warden L. S. Butler tendered his resignation, effective September 1. It was accepted and Mr. Butler was written a letter of thanks for his services. John E. Plank was employed, effective August 15, 1929, as special deputy game warden for Meagher, Musselshell, Golden Valley and Wheatland counties, his headquarters to be at Harlowton.

Mr. Hill read a resolution from the Southeastern Sportsmen's Association relative to the use of set lines in the Yellowstone and Big Horn Rivers, and the pollution problem from the beet sugar factory at Billings. Mr. Moore was requested to investigate and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Moore suggested that bullheads and catfish be seined out of Hollins Lake and put in the Yellowstone River, under supervision of Deputy Holmes. The fish truck was ordered sent there.

Mr. Moore advised that a new oil refinery at Billings is dumping waste oil into the Yellowstone River. Mr. Hill and Mr. Moore were authorized to take care of this matter.

Dr. Treece advised that the rearing ponds at the Anaconda hatchery have cement floors but need to be partitioned, and he was authorized to construct the ponds of concrete.

Mr. Hill read a letter addressed to Dr. Treece from Carl Lund of the Wyoming fish hatcheries department, asking this Department to make claim against Wyoming for \$800 for 400,000 eggs furnished them and the secretary was instructed to file the claim.

Mr. Schofield presented a letter from the Musselshell Valley Sportsmen's Association, asking that McVey Creek, upon which they have a rearing pond, be closed to fishing from its source to where it empties into Lebo Creek, for the purpose of protecting the young fish. The report was approved.

The Lewistown Rod and Gun Club requested that the closed season on Spring Creek, in Fergus county, from November 15 to January 1 of the following year, be changed to conform with the regular closed season on streams in the state. It was granted.

Mr. Schofield advised that the secretary of the Izaak Walton League of Great Falls had written that their organization would cooperate with the Commission, on a 50-50 basis, in the building of a rearing pond in Cascade county on the Willis property, which will maintain several thousand six-inch fish. Mr. Schofield quoted the cost of construction at between \$500 and \$1,000.

Open Season on Sage Grouse

MONTANA'S State Fish and Game Commission has declared an early open season on sage grouse in 17 of the 56 counties. This action was taken at the last meeting of the Commission at Helena in compliance with requests of sportsmen's clubs and the constantly recurring complaint that the later season finds scattered coveys, tougher birds and almost impossible bags. The five-day season on sage grouse this year extends from August 17-21, inclusive, only in the following named counties:

Big Horn, Petroleum, Yellowstone, Carbon, Fergus, Beaverhead, Phillips, Valley, Stillwater, Rosebud, Treasure, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Hill, Blaine, Meagher and Musselshell.

Mr. Crawford stated that the site which they have will warrant development. It was agreed that, if given the necessary easement, the Commission will cooperate on a 50-50 basis with the Great Falls Izaak Walton League.

Mr. Schofield advised having received several quotations on the building of the aquariums at the Great Falls hatchery, but recommended that the Commission consider the matter thoroughly before building them. It was voted that bids for the construction of the aquariums at the Great Falls hatchery be rejected, the price being considered too high.

Mr. Schofield recommended the building of a rearing pond on Hanson Creek near Lewistown and the request was approved.

Mr. Schofield also recommended the building of two rearing ponds in Wheatland county, one on the Selkirk place and one on the Baxter place, and the Commission approved. He also was given permission to complete a rearing pond near Neihart on a spring-feeder creek of Belt Creek.

Mr. Schofield gave a report of the work done on authorized rearing ponds, and the low cost in building. He advised that W. T. Richards, a former Commissioner, had worked with him for several days in the building of two ponds in Blaine county. Mr. Richards of Chinook was advised that the Commission has taken notice of valuable assistance rendered by him.

Tom Medanich was given permission to take carp out of the forebay of Hauser Dam and Canyon Ferry Dam, at his own expense, and also to seine Lake Helena. He requested permission to put traps in the Red Rock River to take out ling. The Commission advised that permission can not be granted to install traps in any of the rivers in the state. For the purpose of assisting and taking the undesirable fish out of Hollins Lake near Billings Mr. Medanich was employed for a month to see what can be done.

The Deer Lodge Anglers' Club asked that that part of Powell county in the vicinity of Mount Powell, south and west of the Deer Lodge River, be closed to the hunting of elk for 1929, and the request was granted.

All that portion of Ravalli county east of the Bitter Root River was opened to the hunting and shooting of one elk of either sex from November 11 to 15, both dates inclusive.

PLOVER IS PROTECTED

There will be no hunting of black-bellied and golden plovers and greater and lesser yellowlegs this season under federal regulations, according to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, the bureau that administers the Migratory Bird Treaty Act under which these birds are afforded protection. Woodcock and Wilson's snipe, or jacksnipe, are the only shore birds on which there will be open seasons this fall. These seasons differ in various states. The use of automobiles in the taking of migratory birds is prohibited. Also the use of airplanes for this purpose is prohibited.

Back to Nature

Oh, for a camp in the mountains, inspiring;

Sheltered by pine trees and close to a stream—

There let me live like my soul is desiring,

Near unto nature, to rest and to dream!

Far from the din of the world's busy bustling,

Leave me alone where in silence I may

Drink in the song of the forest trees' rustling—

Bas kin the smiles of a glorious day! There let me linger, forgotten, forgetting;

Bathed in the glow of a ruddy camp fire—

Fearless of future, and nothing regretting—

Lost with my thoughts and my heart's dear desire!

—A. De Bernadri, Jr.

HIGH WATER KILLS FISH

A COMMON remark made during periods of high water is, "Well, anyway, it's a splendid time for fish." As a rule, however, there is no form of wild life that suffers so extensively during flood periods as fish.

High water is destructive of fish life in at least four ways. In the first place, many fish drown. This will seem strange to the average person, but it is true. Particles of sand clog the gills of the fish and it is impossible for them to get air. Second, high water kills fish by the unusual violence of the stream. Third, much fish life getting into the back waters is left stranded as the waters recede, and is destroyed as the pools dry up. Fourth, millions of fish are lost through the destruction of natural spawn, which is either washed away or buried in the sand.

CLOUDS AHEAD

"Why do they always give a shower to a girl who is going to be married?" "Merely a quaint old custom to symbolize the beginning of a reign."

Baumgartner, Great Falls, Leads the Way



A. C. BAUMGARTNER of Great Falls, well known Montana sportsman, has attained a pedestal of merited esteem among his associates. He is shown here with a string of big-mouth bass caught in the Missouri River near Great Falls in a spot where sportsmen have declared "there ain't no bass." The largest of the

string weighs 5¾ pounds. Mr. Baumgartner has likewise become recognized as the leading dealer in fish and game licenses in the state. He has topped all other dealers for several years and is one of the staunch supporters of the conservation program of the State Fish and Game Department.

Millions of Montana Game Fish

By FLOYD L. SMITH



Dr. I. H. Treece

SPAWN-TAKING operations have been concluded for the year at the great Flint Creek station at Georgetown Lake and the station at Lake Ronan. The run of trout and grayling up the stream has stopped and the eggs taken artificially are now in the troughs at the 14 state hatcheries preparing the fingerlings which will be released to restock state streams after the heavy

drain made by resident and visiting anglers during the year. Figures show that during the five years preceding the 1929 season a total of 207,800,843 fingerlings have been distributed in Montana streams from Montana hatcheries. The total egg take from the stations, not including loch leven, eastern brook, salmon and steelhead trout shows 42,314,170 eggs taken during the season just closed, which are now maturing.

A quarter of a billion game fish in the last six years—that's what the records show. Montana has a population of about 546,000, according to last estimates, yet during the tourist months when travelers from all parts of the United States are attracted to Montana's brooks and lakes, the angling population is considerably increased.

Here are the final figures on the egg-take for the season, as prepared by Kenneth McDonald at Anaconda, under supervision of Dr. I. H. Treece, veteran fish culturist, who is field assistant in charge of hatcheries:

At Georgetown

Native trout24,119,218
Rainbow trout 520,040
Grayling12,031,080

At Lake Ronan

Rainbow trout 5,215,000
Native trout 146,000

This brings the total egg-take for the 1929 season, which began shortly after the ice went out of Georgetown Lake in May, and ended in July, to 42,314,170. The season was late again this year and the game fish declined to run up Flint Creek through the state traps until near the opening date of the fishing season. Hence it was necessary for the Commission to protect the trout by delaying opening the lake until the close of the spawn-taking season. In taking the eggs by artificial means, after the trout have been caught in the traps, no fish is harmed. Once the eggs are removed, the big fellows are dropped back into the water and return to the lake without injury.

Five men are employed in the spawn-

THE FIVE-YEAR RECORD

DURING the last five-year fish-planting program, exclusive of activities during the current year, which totals are not yet available, the 14 hatcheries operated by the State Fish and Game Department, working with the three co-operating hatcheries, have liberated a total of 207,800,843 game fish for the maintenance of the sport for anglers of Montana and the nation. Because of the unsatisfactory weather conditions, bringing about late spawning, the egg-take at the Flint Creek station and other spawning grounds was light in 1928. Here's the record:

1924	24,471,098
1925	38,985,517
1926	58,510,202
1927	46,823,070
1928	39,010,956
Total	207,800,843

taking work at the mouth of Flint Creek with three at the Lake Ronan station, all working under supervision of Dr. I. H. Treece. During the spawn-

ing season the scenic spot at the mouth of Flint Creek is visited by thousands of Montana residents as well as tourists. Each day has seen hundreds of automobiles parked alongside the highway while crowds surge around the traps watching operations.

On a recent inspection trip to the station—it was on Sunday and no spawn is taken on Sunday—an actual count of 103 autos was made. The visitors were thrilled by watching the big rainbows, natives and grayling swarm over each other in the seasoning traps, which are regarded as the last word in artificial spawn taking. Betterments are constantly being made in order that more satisfactory results may be attained. This work is being done by the State Fish and Game Department for the restocking of streams that Montana sportsmen and their visitors may continue to enjoy the angling for which the state has become noted.

After entering the month of Flint Creek at the Georgetown spawning station, which provides the greatest number of eggs, the trout are seined care-

Experts Taking Eggs from Montana Trout



Here are shown the fish experts of the Montana State Fish and Game Commission at work taking spawn from grayling, rainbow and native trout at the spawning station at the mouth of Flint Creek where it empties into Georgetown Lake, near Anaconda. The fish, held in the traps while running up the creek to spawn, are dipped out with the long-handled nets, stripped by the staff of experts, the eggs carefully placed in cans and, after being thoroughly cleansed and fertilized, the eggs are then rushed to the hatcheries. Dr. I. H. Treece, veteran fish expert of the Department, is shown bareheaded in the immediate foreground clad in his slicker and waders, up to his waist in the cold water stripping the big fellows.

fully and placed in handling traps. The cool waters of Flint Creek flow through these traps and the milling thousands of trout are kept in their natural condition.

The workers don waders and slickers, wear a woolen glove on their left hand to hold the trout and walk out among them. The trout are placed in a handling box with the big dip nets. The expert reaches into the box, grabs a female with the gloved hand, swings the head under his arm, gently bends the head backward toward the tail and, if the trout is in proper condition for spawning, the eggs are brought forth by stripping and caught in a prepared pan.

When a quart of eggs has been collected a male of the same species is caught and milt for fertilizing the eggs is stripped into the pan. Experts stir the eggs thoroughly, mixing them with the milt. The eggs are then washed and placed in cans.

Dr. Treece estimates that under natural spawning conditions only about 10 per cent of the eggs hatch, while under artificial or hatchery methods more than 80 per cent hatch and are later developed for planting in Montana streams.

Immediately after each take is completed and the traps are emptied, with the trout being returned to the lake and their native haunts, the eggs are placed in cooled, especially constructed trucks built for the State Commission and rushed to the hatcheries.

Upon receiving eggs at a hatchery the first step taken after unpacking is to ascertain the temperature. Then follows the slow raising of the temperature. After the eggs are tempered they are put in baskets or stacks of trays to eye or hatch.

There are two stages of eggs, green and eyed. Green eggs are those which have been fertilized, but in which the incubation period has not started. Eyed eggs are those which have been incubated to a point where the embryo is well defined and the eye spots are plainly visible. If the eggs are green and in water of an average temperature of 50 degrees, it will take from 14 to 18 days for them to become eyed.

They are then syphoned out of baskets into a tub or bucket for the purpose of giving them a shock. This shock is necessary to kill the blank or unfertile eggs. The blank or unfertile eggs are then picked out and the eyed eggs are put back into the baskets to hatch, which will take about 10 to 14 days. When the eggs hatch they are called fry; after they begin to take food they become advanced fry. They remain advanced fry until they become an inch long, when they reach the fingerling age, which is fingerling No. 1, meaning they are an inch long. They remain in the fingerling class until a year old, when they are called yearlings.

OUTMANEUVERED

"When you are driving," said the judge to the colored taxi man who had hit a pedestrian, "and you see you are going to hit some one, you should zig-zag your car."

"Dat were de trouble, boss," replied Eph; "dat's what I did, but dat man out-zig-zagged me."

Chinese Pheasants In Washington

MORE than 8,500 Chinese pheasant eggs have been distributed to Washington counties and sportsmen's organizations throughout the state so far this year through the department of fisheries and game, according to Charles R. Maybury, director, at Olympia, Washington.

This was done, Maybury said, in connection with the policies of the game restoration program, the objective of which is to increase the supply of game animals, birds and game fish in the state.

Owing to ideal weather conditions the two state game farms, at Stellacoom and Walla Walla, found themselves fairly flooded with eggs this spring. Under normal conditions the two can take care of something like 25,000 eggs, but with the total lay this year running far in excess of that figure, the game officials decided to distribute the surplus among the counties and sportsmen's clubs where it was felt that the reared pheasants would improve the hunting.

For several years this state has led those of the west in furthering the game restoration program and the present plan of distributing pheasants is but one of the many reforms sponsored, Maybury asserted.

Skagit county drew 1,800 eggs, the largest number apportioned to any

county in the history of the state. With a well equipped game farm to hatch and rear pheasants this county will be one of the most heavily stocked in the state.

Kittitas county, one of the best bird hunting districts west of the Mississippi, was allotted 1,500 eggs. Whitman county received 1,120 to be hatched on the game farm there.

Wahkiakum county was furnished 1,000 eggs which were farmed out to ranchers and sportsmen's clubs for hatching. Lacking both money and facilities for rearing birds the county game commission has planned to work through hunters.

Pierce county's allotment was 970, to be handled in much the same manner as in Kahkiakum county. Kitsap county received 550 and Pend Oreille 200, all of which were farmed out. The 360 eggs given to Stevens county were taken care of at the county game farm.

Some 200 eggs were shipped to Alaska for experimental purposes, the director revealed. Part went to the Alaska game commission, the remainder to the Forest Service. The experiment will be closely watched by game officials to determine whether Chinese pheasants will adapt themselves to the widely diversified range lands of the north.

What is a Conservationist?

Much of this conservation talk and effort is mere twaddle.

Many conservationists merely want to head off the other fellow so that they can do the destroying themselves.

There is an overload of that spirit in the numerous organizations claiming conservation as their object.

A real conservationist should be devoted to some such program as this:

Be content to see migratory fowl resting upon our waters or pursuing their journeyings without wanting to shoot and kill;

Look upon the fur-bearing animals in their natural habitat without coveting the money their hides will bring on the market;

Behold a forest without a mental calculation as to what they would put into his pocket when reduced to lumber or other products;

Consider a lake or stream without wanting to drain and destroy it for the sake of a few tillable acres;

Permit fish to inhabit the waters without the primal urge to yank them hence and hear them sizzle in the skillet that he may gorge on what he probably does not need;

Gaze with pleasure upon the beauty of wild flowers without the ruthless impulse to gather them and cause their disappearance.

The true conservationist carries no rod or gun, yet gains the greatest pleasure from nature.

The Indian, usually accounted a de-

stroyer, was a true conserver of nature's bounties.

For his livelihood he took of that provided by the Great Spirit in the stream, forest and plain. For his needs only he hunted.

When dispossessed by the white man he yielded back to the Great Spirit what he had received, giving a good account of his stewardship.

He left forests unscathed, the fertile soil undepleted, the bison and the deer in numbers as he had found them, the waters undisturbed, the fish and the fowls of the air undiminished.

The white despoilers, calling themselves sportsmen and custodians of the world's civilization came, taking possession of what the red man had found sufficient for centuries, without destruction.

The sad story of three-quarters of a century of white dominion finds our forests gone, our soil already robbed of its fertility, our food animals, birds, and fish vanishing, water reservoirs obliterated—everywhere the record of pillage and destruction for temporary gain or sacrifice in the name of sport.

There is but one way to conserve.

That is to quit destroying.

The mad scramble for wealth and pleasure, directed against the once sufficient bounty of nature, if persisted in will reduce a region of plenty to a desert waste, incapable of sustaining human life.—Fins, Feathers and Fur.

MONTANA STATE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS.

Thomas N. Marlowe, Missoula, Chairman.
G. T. Boyd, Great Falls.
Joseph L. Kelly, Anaconda.
W. K. Moore, Billings.
E. A. Wilson, Livingston.



ROBERT H. HILL, Helena
State Fish and Game Warden
Secretary.

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MONTANA'S SALMON EGG LAW

MONTANA'S legislature has decreed that salmon eggs real or imitation, shall not be used for fish bait in the streams of the state. Action of lawmakers of the state, induced by efforts of sportsmen who realize the damage caused by "planting" holes by vandals, has gained recognition among conservationists of the nation. It is probable that further efforts will be taken at the next legislative session to extend the scope of the law to lakes. The last tribute received is published by the Tacoma Ledger as follows:

The state of Montana, seeing the real danger in the use of salmon eggs as trout bait, has a strict, definite law against the use of the "red dynamite."

The free use of salmon eggs as trout bait in Washington has been one of the chief reasons our wonderful streams have been rid of trout to an alarming condition.

The Montana law reads verbatim:

"The Fish and Game Commission is hereby granted authority to regulate, supervise and prohibit the use as fish bait of salmon eggs or salmon spawn, or any imitations or substance prepared therefrom, in any stream in this state whenever it deems necessary. Whenever the said Commission shall have made an appropriate order under the powers conferred upon it by this action, prohibiting the use of salmon eggs or salmon spawn or any substances prepared therefrom, as bait in any specified stream or streams in the State of Montana, it shall be unlawful and a misdemeanor, punishable as in this act hereinafter provided, for any person to fish with or use as fish bait any salmon eggs or salmon spawn, or any imitations or substances prepared therefrom in the stream or streams designated by such order or orders."

While Washington sportsmen sleep and permit their average streams to become almost barren of what can be called trout, the progressive state of Montana with alert sportsmen is doing everything it can to protect its trout waters.

And Montana has trout fishing that IS trout fishing.

A pretty girl always looks like the picture on a magazine doesn't.

BE A GOOD WOODSMAN

WATCH a good woodsman light his pipe. He extinguishes the match, feels it with his fingers, nine times out of ten breaks it in two and then looks for a safe place to throw it. How does a good woodsman discard his cigarette or the ashes from his pipe? He examines his smoke piece for evidence of fire. If he finds it, he extinguishes the burning end of his cigarette with saliva or the embers of his pipe by grinding with his knife blade or other object. He then carefully clears a spot of earth free of all inflammable material and disposes of his cast-off tobacco by grinding it into the mineral earth with his foot. While Montana forests are ablaze these thoughts are timely. A match can not be broken with ease and safety unless it is thoroughly out, and a match that is thoroughly out does not start a forest fire. The carelessly flipped match has accounted for millions of dollars worth of damage to the forest resources of our country. It is the man who flips the match and not the match that is responsible for disasters. When you have finished lighting your pipe, your cigar or your cigarette, break it in two pieces before casting the match away, and be equally as careful in the disposal of the stub of cigar and cigarette, and the pipe heel. Be a good woodsman.

WASHINGTON PREVENTS WASTE

AMONG changes made in the Washington state game code at the last session of the legislature the most important is the new wastage law. The intent of the law is to protect the game animals of the state from wanton, ruthless, and wasteful destruction and mutilation for their hides, horns, teeth, and antlers alone. No longer will the hunters be permitted to go into the hills, kill a deer or elk, and take away only the teeth or antlers as trophies. When the new law becomes effective all edible portions of the carcass must be removed.

In the future hunters who fail to properly dress and care for their kill within twenty-four hours will be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$1,000, or sent to jail for not less than one year, or fined and jailed both.

The law also provides that any person killing a game bird, game animal, fur-bearing animal, or game fish, and lets it needlessly go to waste, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

From a conservation standpoint this is one of the most important laws in the game code. It will keep the trophy hunters out of the state, for one thing; it accords wild life a greater degree of protection than ever before, and brings to an abrupt end the practice of allowing carcasses of animals and birds to waste in the woods and hills.

IN DAYS THAT HAVE PASSED

ARATHER amusing set of orders of the day for October 25, 1842, has recently come to light from Fort Riley, Kansas:

"1. Members of this command will when shooting buffaloes on the parade ground, be careful not to fire in the direction of the C. O.'s quarters.

"2. The troop officer having the best trained remount for this year will be awarded one barrel of rye whiskey.

"3. Student officers will discontinue the practice of roping and riding buffaloes.

"4. Attention of all officers is called to par. 107, A. R., in which it provides under uniform regulations that all officers will wear beards.

"5. Short buffalo coats ordered will be ready for issue November 29."

SPOKANE PAPER PAYS TRIBUTE

THE Spokesman-Review of Spokane, one of the west's greatest newspapers, pays the following tribute to activities of Montana's State Fish and Game Department:

"There is one state in the northwest interested in preserving its wild life, and to that end publishes a monthly magazine which tells the sportsmen of the state just what is going on and what is being planned by the state officials. The state is Montana and the publication MONTANA WILD LIFE.

"Incidentally, the magazine is edited by Floyd L. Smith, formerly sports editor of The Spokesman-Review, and the magazine is the official publication of the Montana State Fish and Game Department.

"As far as we have been able to find out it is the only magazine of its kind published in the northwest.

"With the July issue at hand, we are interested to note both the articles and the editorials. We find that the Fish and Game Commission is preparing a big game farm to be ready by 1930. Another editorial has much to say on conservation.

"An article deals with scientific research work carried on by University of Montana investigators at Georgetown lake. This has considerable to do with the rearing and planting of game fish, a subject that should be of interest to every state in the Union.

"Montana is now known as one of the greatest game states in the United States and it is work along the lines pointed out in the magazine that is going to keep Montana on top."

WHAT IS CONSERVATION?

NOT so long ago many folks were laboring under the delusion that a conservationist was a fellow equipped with a long face, sideburns, an unlimited supply of "don'ts" and an ambition to prevent sportsmen from enjoying themselves in hunting and fishing. But as the idea of game restoration spreads over these United States, as the teachings of the necessity for the preservation of wild life resources are being broadcast, the general public is beginning to say to itself, "After all there must be something in all this talk about conservation."

Conservation is no strange, new cult. It doesn't demote the hardy gunner to a pacifist or cause the ardent angler to scrap his tackle and quit the streams and lakes he loves.

Conservation doesn't mean restriction. It means common sense preservation. It contemplates more sport for all decent sportsmen. It means taking no more than the game laws say you may take, or, more sensibly, what your own sense of a grub supply and fair play tells you is enough. Conservation means simply the old Golden Rule applied to game and fish and your fellow man. It revives the flavor and romance of the spirit of hunting.

The conservationist, therefore, is the fellow who is thinking about such matters and trying to interest others in them. He isn't standing around and "letting George do it." He is taking an active part in improving conditions in his neighborhood or district. There is absolutely nothing mysterious about conservation.

FISH CULTURE IN NATIONAL PARKS

A COOPERATIVE arrangement has been effected between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce whereby a fish culturist has been detailed to supervise all fish cultural operations in national parks and national monuments. This arrangement became effective July 1. While fish culture has been carried on in Yellowstone National Park and other national parks, heretofore there has been no cooperative arrangement between the two departments and no detail of a special superintendent for that work.

The duty of the supervisor of fish culture in national parks will include not only general supervision of fish cultural operations but detailed studies of park waters to determine suitability for fish, a study of native or related species suitable for stocking park waters, and the preparation of permanent plans for stocking all park waters.

Fish hatcheries are in operation in Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. California operates a fish hatchery in Yosemite Park. Other hatcheries will be established in national parks where conditions are found suitable.

SPORTSMEN AND STOCKMEN

SPORTSMEN and stockmen have much in common. Both desire to see Montana a better place in which to live.

Both want more game and more forage and vegetation over our ranges. Both wish to curb the irresponsible shooter. The broadminded stockman does not object to hunting on his property if the sportsman doing the hunting exercises reasonable courtesy and care. The sportsman is as much interested as the stockman in eliminating the pest who leaves his campfire burning, shoots female deer, cattle and men indiscriminately, leaves gates open, and who slaughters the birds around the house. The progressive stockman has always been and is a notable defender of wild life and the friend of the sportsman. While minor occasions of friction may at times arise, the best way for both sportsman and stockman lies in thoroughgoing cooperation.

GAME ENVIRONMENT

IN a contribution to the "Ames Forester," the annual publication of the Forestry Club of Iowa State College, by Aldo Leopold, suggestive comment is made on the influence of environment on game and the necessity for control of such environment. He points out that the prairie chicken has been crowded out of the state by the elimination of prairie cover; quail are being reduced by intensive grazing and the elimination of fence rows, and that waterfowl are shrinking before the advance of drainage.

The only remedy, says Mr. Leopold, is the restoration of the necessary environment favorable to each species. Methods of accomplishing this are not easy. "It takes more knowledge," says Mr. Leopold, "to put together than to take apart."

We must learn how much cover and what kind to plant for birds to provide the refuge and food required; we must learn what kinds and numbers of predatory species can be allowed to remain; what supplementary winter feeding is necessary. The exact answers to all such questions must be worked out for each species and each region just as analogous questions are being worked out for each species and each region in forestry.

Mr. Leopold proposes that agriculturists and foresters should cooperate to find the solution. The technique of environmental controls for game protection must be dovetailed both as to agriculture and forestry at every point else it will never be practiced. Game is essentially a by-product of farming and forestry. If the system of raising the by-product interferes with the main crop, the by-product will not be produced. Most game crops can be made to benefit the main crops.

HEAD MAGGOTS ENDANGER DEER

REPORTS have been made to the American Game Protective Association of the death of mule deer in the west which has been attributed to head maggots. Inquiry of the United States Bureau of Entomology elicits the information that there are two or more distinct species of nose flies that affect deer and elk in this country. The life history of these is not well understood but presumably the young are deposited as minute active larvae in the nostrils of the deer. These larvae immediately work up the nasal passages and attach in the nose, throat and sinuses of the head, where they complete their development in about a year and drop out as full grown spiny larvae about two-thirds of an inch in length. These in turn transform on the ground to flies which, after mating, immediately begin to attack the hosts. The presence of these larvae in the heads of the animals causes irritation and sometimes pus formation is induced. These larvae would naturally tend to lower the resistance and condition of animals affected so that they might die from other causes.

What can be done to bring these insects under control is a question which can not be answered until they have been more carefully studied. Post mortem examinations showed that head maggots were possibly a contributing factor. Animals so affected lose their appetites, become emaciated and fall easy prey to any adverse factors such as severe weather and feed shortage.

It is said by those who have made investigation that the species of fly which infests the deer is not the same that attacks domestic sheep.

The Heritage of Old John Nine Pipe

WHEN John Nine Pipe was a papoose, Mamma Nine Pipe lugged him around the tepee on the Flathead Indian reservation and crooned camp fire stories to him. When John became a bold warrior, he gained merited recognition with his fish spear, his arrows, and later with his rifle in the territory now known as Lake county, Montana. But when years caused John Nine Pipe to put away his fishing outfit, he sat in his cabin door and allowed imps of memory to play hide and seek in the dusk that hid the majestic Mission range. He tugged at his pipe and wondered at the wizardry of the white man and the manner in which he has caused Nature to serve him. For on the allotment of Old John Nine Pipe the vast United States Reclamation reservoir, known as Nine Pipe reservoir, now holds the pent-up water that irrigates thousands of acres and provides wholesome sport for thousands of anglers of western Montana.

In connection with this article are two significant pictures taken by Deputy Game Warden Jack F. Goldsby of Polson. They tell a story that drives home a series of salient facts. Nine Pipe reservoir was created by the United States Reclamation Service on what was formerly the Flathead Indian reservation, where Mamma Nine Pipe educated John among laughing waters and towering crags.

The reservoir, created for irrigation purposes, was then made a bird refuge by the Biological Survey. Millions of ducks, geese and other migratory waterfowl nest on its shores. Hunting is allowed during the open season. Thousands of ducks are banded by federal game protectors at the reservoir and these ducks are traced in their flight north and south through cooperation of sportsmen who report the number on the aluminum band and the circumstances under which the duck or goose was killed.

About five years ago Montana's State Fish and Game Commission recognized the possibilities of the reservoir named after the venerable Flathead Indian as a breeding area for warm water fish such as appeal to the boy and girl and the bass angler.

At that time many thousands of bullheads, sunfish and bass were placed in the warm waters of the pool and during the five years all three species have multiplied rapidly.

Thousands of these fish have been brought to the surface with the use of test nets by State Commission employes, in an effort to determine results of artificial propagation and planting.

This spring, according to Chairman Thomas N. Marlowe of the State Commission, between 5,000 and 6,000 bass weighing from one to three pounds each were taken from the reservoir by western Montana sportsmen.

The reservoir, by order of the Commission, is open to fishing during the

Father, Mother, Mary, John and Neighbors Fish for Bass and Sunfish



THESE companion pictures, showing the popularity of fishing for bass, sunfish and crappies in Nine Pipe reservoir in Lake county provide another reason why Montana sportsmen appreciate the work of the State Fish and Game Commission. Here the whole family, in fact, a flock of families, are fishing for the variety that pleases boys and girls, men and women, and they have been planted in the big reclamation reservoir by the State Commission for just that purpose. Note the saddle horses on which fishermen have ridden to the points that jut into the deeper water. The lunch is in the family cars at the right. It's a picture that is worth serious reflection.

regular closed season and western Montana sportsmen and their families enjoy the treat of angling there in the spring. They were having such remarkable luck catching bass that the Commission feared the reservoir might be depleted to such an extent that there would be none for reproduction, hence it was closed to bass fishing, but the catching of sunfish and bullheads was permitted. Some of these bullheads have grown to 15 to 16 inches in length and are considered a palatable fish by fortunate anglers.

Bass planted in the reservoir were secured by rescue work carried on by the Commission in the upper Flathead country where the little fellows were taken from landlocked pools after the pools had been lowered by pumping and a series of ditches and dams constructed.

And here's the nubbin of the situation. Every dad wants to be a pal of his lad. He enjoys taking out the family. Boy with pin hook and ball of dough, daughter equipped with bamboo rod and bobber, mother fitted up with a wide hat and similar equipment, all hop into the Ford, take a drive to the reservoir, enjoy the fishing and the lunch, and there's none of the hardship and rough going of the mountain trip.

FISHERS THREE

THREE fishers came into the town at night,
 And their speckled beauties were fair to see;
 They talked of the sport with keen delight—
 The envy of all the fraternity.
 For men will fish and men will lie,
 And what they can't catch they are sure to buy,
 To make their tale good in the morning.

The Commission is helping the boy to be a sportsman and in this move has been given the hearty cooperation of the Dads.

THE LOWLY MUSKRAT

LAST year 239,174 muskrats surrendered their pelts to the trappers of Kansas, and they brought to the pockets of these trappers about \$250,000. A fur bearer that is productive of so much revenue, and which is of little more trouble to anybody than manna from heaven, should be protected, and yet thousands of these

little animals are unnecessarily destroyed in Kansas every year. From a single blind on Brandy Lake near Hutchinson 19 dead muskrats were taken last spring.

A trapper who follows his vocation at one of the big hunting clubs says that he lost \$150 worth of fur at this one club last year on account of alleged sportsmen shooting muskrats which they found in the blinds.

How many rats we lose by this means no one knows, but the number is large. Young muskrats fall a prey to turtles and other predatory creatures in large numbers. We should have a law compelling the placing of a cleated board or similar device in every blind to put a stop to this unnecessary destruction of these valuable little animals.

COME ONE, COME ALL

A young Montana man with a pretty flirtatious fiancée, wrote to a supposed rival:

"I've been told that you have been kissing my girl. Come to my office at eleven o'clock Saturday. I want to have this matter out."

The rival answered: "I've received a copy of your circular letter and will be present at the meeting."

Casting for Bass in the Shadow of Montana's Majestic Mission Range



WHILE the snow-clad, frowning crags of the majestic Mission range of Montana scowl down and leave their reflections in the Nine Pipe pool, fishermen enjoy the sport of casting for bass with their old-fashioned bamboo poles. The big fellows are in the tules and among the lily pads. They were planted in the Nine Pipe reservoir by the State Fish and Game Commission for the sport that bass, sunfish and crappies may provide and each year finds hundreds of anglers sharing that sport. These pictures cause sportsmen to reflect upon achievements of the Commission and the results should incessant efforts cease. Landlocked warm water fish are transported from pools created by overflow of the Flathead and placed in this big body of water—and the results are pictured.

Montana Sportsman's Association



Glen Smith

AT A MEETING of the governing board of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, held at Missoula on June 30, the following members being present in person or by proxy, Chairman Glen A. Smith, E. A. Wilson, J. H. Garberson and E. M. Boyes, the governing board adopted the following resolution:

By Wilson, seconded by Boyes: "That the Montana Sportsmen's Association agree to a plan offered by the Montana Fish and Game Commission for the joint employment of an educational secretary to work in Montana." Passed unanimously.

The plan offered by the State Fish and Game Commission is explained by their resolution of June 7, adopted at a meeting at Anaconda: "That the State Fish and Game Commission set aside \$2,500 per year, until further order of the Commission, to be used in paying the salary and expenses of an educational secretary, providing, however, that the State Sportsmen's Association will pay any other amount necessary to secure the services of a competent person for this position and that they also revise their schedule of dues now assessed to affiliated clubs so that in no case would any club dues be more than \$50 per year, and that we suggest this proposition to the State Sportsmen's Association for its approval and ask that we be informed as to their acceptance or rejection within 30 days from this date. This order is to be effective on and after June 15, 1929."

To meet the provisions of the offer by the Fish and Game Commission it was necessary for the governing board of the Montana Sportsmen's Association to change their by-laws relating to dues payable from individuals and clubs. The following schedule of dues was adopted by the governing board at the meeting on June 30, waiver of 30 days' notice having been obtained from all members of the board:

Clubs with 300 members or more.....	\$50
Clubs with 250 to 299 members.....	45
Clubs with 200 to 249 members.....	40
Clubs with 150 to 199 members.....	35
Clubs with 100 to 149 members.....	30
Clubs with 75 to 99 members.....	25
Clubs with 50 to 74 members.....	20
Clubs with 25 to 49 members.....	15
Clubs with less than 25 members.....	10
Individual annual memberships (not included in clubs)	1
Memberships to dude ranches, firms, etc.	10

In accordance with the new schedule of membership fees adopted by the gov-

ASSOCIATION NEWS

SPORTSMEN of Montana who are affiliated with the Montana Sportsmen's Association will hereafter be given word of activities of that organization through MONTANA WILD LIFE, which has been adopted as the official publication of that organization. The magazine, which is the official publication of the State Fish and Game Commission, has been opened to members and officers and the accompanying minutes of the last meeting at Missoula have been submitted by Glen A. Smith, chairman of the governing board.

erning board at this meeting, dues of practically all clubs in Montana will be slightly or materially lowered for 1929. A few of the organizations or clubs which have already paid their 1929 dues will receive refunds in ac-

An Albino Magpie



EVER see a white magpie? Or a purple cow? Or a pink elephant? A. G. Gillespie, druggist of Grass Range, Mont., the man who trains birds to chat with him, has a white magpie in his collection. It's another freak of nature of the albino variety. Mr. Gillespie recently acquired an albino porcupine, photographs of which were sent to the State Fish and Game Commission. Believe it or not, here's one of the pictures.

cordance with the new fee schedule, this refund to be made when and if the cooperative agreement between the two state associations goes actually into effect.

MONTANA WILD LIFE, published at Helena by the Montana Fish and Game Commission, is recognized by the Sportsmen's Association as the outstanding spokesman for Montana sportsmen and all members of the Montana Sportsmen's Association and affiliated rod and gun clubs are invited and urged to subscribe to this magazine. The Big Horn magazine, formerly published by the Sportsmen's Association, will not be revived. Membership in the Montana Sportsmen's Association has not meant, and will not mean, any free subscription to MONTANA WILD LIFE. Reduced income from the lowered scale of fees to affiliated rod and gun clubs of the state makes it impossible now for the Sportsmen's Association to finance publication of the Big Horn.

The Montana Sportsmen's Association, in the opinion of its governing board, welcomes this opportunity to enter into a cooperative agreement whereby it may become a larger and better organization, representing a larger body of Montana sportsmen in its work for the conservation of Montana wild life.

When the State Fish and Game Commission takes final action upon the resolution of the governing board of the Sportsmen's Association, it is probable a meeting will be called immediately to consider the matter of an educational secretary. When such a secretary is employed and the cooperative work is put under way, each club affiliated with the Montana Sportsmen's Association will be notified.

Good Timber

The tree that never had to fight
 For sun and sky and air and light,
 That stood out, in the open plain,
 And always got its share of rain,
 Never became a forest king,
 But lived and died a scrubby thing.
 The man who never had to toil
 To heaven from the common soil,
 Who never had to win his share
 Of sun and sky and light and air,
 Never became a manly man,
 But lived and died as he began.
 Good timber does not grow in ease;
 The stronger wind the tougher trees,
 The farther sky the greater length,
 The more the storm the more the strength;
 By sun and cold, by rain and snows,
 In tree or man good timber grows—
 Where thickest stands the forest growth
 We find the patriarchs of both
 And they hold converse with the stars
 Whose broken branches show the scars
 Of many winds and much of strife—
 This is the common law of life.

Seeding Before the Harvest

PLANTING of duck food in Montana's lakes and water holes, which was completed two years ago by the State Fish and Game Commission, has brought definite results. The wapato, sago pond weed, duck potato, wild rice, wild celery, coontail and other food sought by migratory waterfowl has caused thousands of ducks and geese to remain or stop in the state where in former years they left for better feeding grounds. With the assistance of deputy game wardens, this work was completed by Henry J. Hubert, specialist of Clyde B. Terrell's aquatic farm at Oshkosh, Wis. Mr. Hubert has returned to Montana to view the result of his efforts. He has prepared the following article for readers of MONTANA WILD LIFE:

"If you want to improve general conditions for maintaining better feeding and breeding grounds for wild life, want better fishing or shooting, the best and quickest way to get it is to raise more game, fur-bearers or fish, then plant food and cover plants suitable to local conditions, liberate wildfowl or fish and take care of the game throughout the year, not only during the hunting or fishing season.

"It is surprising the number of sportsmen who forget about wild life after the hunting or fishing seasons are over. A good sportsman, like a good farmer, must attend to developing his crop as well as to harvesting it. This is true also in raising or buying game or fish. No matter how attractive or pretty a lake, stream or area might be, if there is no food or cover, plants or protection, wild life or fish will not survive long.

"Many fish fry are killed by sportsmen by not being properly instructed or knowing just how fingerlings should be planted. The sudden shock by pouring fish fry from the container into a lake, pond or stream where the water temperature of the container varies considerably with that from lake or stream usually kills from 25 to 75 per cent. More fish would survive if the container was placed in the water and some of the water from the lake or stream poured into the container and from the container in the lake.

"The writer has made a study of food and cover of wild life, fur-bearers and fish by making investigation and planting of food and cover plants for wild life for private owners of large game preserves, sportsmen, hunting and fishing clubs in the United States and Canada, and finds that in most cases the food supply and protection of wild life is most important.

"In many sections of the country good feeding areas have been destroyed by polluted waters, by mines and factories dumping refuse into streams or lakes. The refuse not alone destroyed aquatic vegetation but killed thousands of fish and in many cases poisoned large numbers of wildfowl.

"Protection of wildfowl, fur-bearers and fish is essential. Control game enemies. Game wardens or the State Department will furnish lists of game enemies.

"In every state there is a department of agriculture. Its purpose is to carry on experiments, collect and dispense reliable information and encourage cooperation among farmers. This is also true of the fish and game department. The farmer does not expect the state or federal government to provide him with seed, much less to come to his farm and plant or cultivate the crop and get it ready for him to harvest in the fall. Yet many sportsmen seem to expect their fish and game department to provide them with good hunting and fishing with no effort on their part except paying a hunting or fishing license fee.

"C'm 'ere Maggie"



MONTANA magpies have proven themselves elusive targets for hunters of predatory birds and animals, but to A. G. Gillespie of Grass Range, Mont., they are talkative pets. Without clipping their wings or splitting their tongues he trains them to talk, fly several blocks from his home, come when called and speak intelligently. In the picture Maggie apparently has her appetite all whetted for a juicy grasshopper held in the hand of Mr. Gillespie.

"There is no reason why our game can not be brought back. All we need is cooperation among sportsmen's clubs and private preserve owners in carrying on this good work, collecting and disseminating reliable information and leading the way for a wild life conservation program.

Sunset

What hues are these

That sunset paints on western skies?
Colors on no pallet laid,
Nor blended by the artist's hand;

These hues are Heaven's dyes.

In ever-changing kaleidoscope,
Blues and flaming reds and yellows
glow,

And gorgeous purple spreads,
And fainter tints creep higher while

Brighter lights are settling low—

Until they softly melt away

And purple turns a deeper hue;

And pink-edged cloud

Gently turns and then is gone,

And all is star-decked blue.

—Herbert E. Miles.

THE EASTERN JACK RABBIT

THE jack rabbit of the New England states is not the same species as the jack rabbit of the western prairies and plains and in fact is not native to America but is a European hare which has been introduced into this country and has become established in New England and New York, as well as Ontario and other places.

This large hare is a fine sporting animal and would have been introduced much more widely in America except for the fact that it is more or less destructive to crops and fruit trees and consequently is objectionable to agriculturists.

Where this hare is hunted its habits are found to be far different from the cottontail or the western native jack rabbit. It is large and agile and able to run long distances, behaving in many respects like the native red fox. When followed by dogs it takes to the open country and moves in wide circles, sometimes two or three miles across. It is reported to jump the astonishing distance of 30 feet. Unlike the snowshoe hare it doesn't inhabit the swamps and doesn't hole up but spends its time in the open country in depressions and clumps of grass depending, when detected, on speed or dodging ability for its escape. The flesh of this hare is palatable and in Europe is highly prized.

SUSPICIOUS

Betty: "Why did Ted kiss you last night?"

Frances: "It might have been because I sat on his lap and put my arms around his neck!"

The Mystifying Montana Shrikes

By MATTIE T. CRAMER, Malta, Mont.

RETURNING to my country home after an absence of several years, I was delighted to find a pair of pretty birds remodeling and lining with feathers a large nest in the thick foliage of the native clematis that had formed a complete cover for a portion of the front porch. I had never seen birds of this kind before and concluded they had invaded Montana during my absence. The nest was rather high but by stepping onto a chair I could make observations when the birds were away. Several days after the nest was completed there were four grayish eggs, spotted and blotched with brown and lavender. Later there were eight eggs. That number seemed to constitute a setting. Soon the nest was full of beautiful downy baby birds. With the greatest solicitude I watched the nest, would allow no cats about, nor allow visiting children to go near it. I asked a number of people if they knew the variety of the birds but they were puzzled. The birds were new to this locality.

About two weeks after the birds were hatched, a high school student was assisting me to prune trees in the garden. He remarked, "Better not let those Butcher birds get near that nest on the porch or they'll kill those young birds."

"Butcher birds," I exclaimed, "where in the world are they?"

"Away up there on top of that old tree," the boy replied.

Looking upward, I saw two pretty birds sitting high on the dead top of a tree.

Going into the garden the following morning I was startled to find a dead snake about two feet long, and also a small bird impaled on thorns of a plum tree. Not knowing the habits of the Butcher birds or Shrikes, I decided some boy had killed the reptile and the bird and placed them there "just for fun."

A day or two later while pruning a tree I was frightened when my hand came in contact with a snake, about the same length of the one discovered on the plum tree, hanging from a crotch of the tree. There were parts of three birds impaled on other crotches and broken boughs.

Having risen very early one morning, I was looking out the window when I saw the two Butcher birds struggling with something on the limb of an old tree thrown near the wood pile. I went into the yard and upon my approach the birds flew away, leaving a freshly killed sparrow impaled on the point of a dead limb. I entered the house and the Butcher birds came swiftly back and tore the sparrow to pieces and flew back and forth to the nest in the vines with tid-bits for the baby birds. This cleared up the mystery pertaining to the snakes and birds found impaled on trees in the garden.

The plumage of these birds is attractive. The upper part light grayish-blue, the under part white and the wings and tail black.

When approaching the nest the birds would fly rapidly, beating their wings in a straight line and dropping nearly to the ground until close to the location of the nest, when with a sharp upward turn they would soar to the nest.

Four of the young birds were borrowed from the nest for a snapshot,

much to the indignation of the parent birds, who flew wildly about crying loudly with harsh notes. The young birds obeyed these calls and ducked out of sight. Finally, one end of a string was tied to one of their legs and the other end of the string tied to a spike which was driven into the lawn, and this insured a position as the grass covered the string and the picture was secured, as if the birds were sitting contentedly in the grass.

These Butcher birds or Northern Loggerhead Shrikes which are found in Montana are said to come from Alaska, and after spending the summer here they migrate to the southern states but return again in the springtime.



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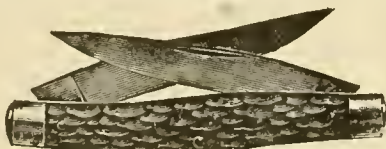
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HUNS SPREADING IN MICHIGAN

WHILE Michigan has not imported or introduced the Hungarian partridge, it has found its way into the southern part of that state from Ohio and is spreading over a number of southern Michigan counties. It is reported that they are in some localities more abundant than the native quail and seem to be well adapted to that region.

M. D. Pirnie, ornithologist of the game division of the Michigan Conservation Department, recently found a nest and eggs of the Hungarian partridge which revealed an interesting nesting habit of this bird. The hen bird was found resting on some fine dead grass which she had used to cover her eggs. At the time the nest was found the egg-laying was not completed as only nine eggs were in the nest, the usual number being nearly double that. It is a well known fact that numbers of the pheasant and quail eggs are taken by crows but these species seldom cover their eggs. Possibly the eggs of the Hungarian partridge will more often escape notice of crows because of the bird's habit of covering her eggs with grass during the laying period. This habit may result in more rapid increase of this species than of the native birds.

PLANTING FOOD FOR BIRDS

The game division of the Michigan conservation department recommends the planting of the following list of plants and trees to improve and increase the food supply of song and game birds:

For song birds, grouse and pheasants: mulberry, wild cherry, elderberry, wild grape, dogwood, redhaw, nightshade and the sumacs.

For song birds: juneberry, Virginia creeper, and mountain ash; the hemlock, box elder, ash and birch.



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Beartooth Silver Fox & Fur Farms

Breeders of Better Fur

Red Lodge, Mont.

The Tryst

I have a rendezvous with Life,
This annual tryst,
A date recurring yearly;
I have not missed,
For forty summers (nearly).
The sun-perch sings from his perch in
the sun,
The dog-fish parley-voo,
Beside some cool
Remembered pool,
I'll keep that rendezvous.
A balmy breeze is playing 'round,
The sun is workin' steady.
A vague unrest,
Within my breast,
Keeps askin', "Gettin' ready?"
A still small voice keeps urgin' me,
In no uncertain terms;
"Now don't be late,
You've got a date,
To excavate some worms."
I have a rendezvous with Life,
I'm strong for rendezvousing;
The joy-birds cry
And the sap runs high,
And the lark sings, "Something doing!"
The sun-perch sings from his perch in
the sun,
The hoot-owl warbles, "Whooh?"
Autumn is here—
You need not fear,
I'll keep that rendezvous.

DUST TO DUST

Keep that schoolgirl complexion but not on your coat lapel.

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Leo. M. Goldberg

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ELK WINTERED WELL

IT IS reported by O. J. Murie, who is in charge of the elk survey in the Jackson Hole region of Wyoming for the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, that very few elk died in the Jackson Hole herd during the past winter. The same is true of other herds of the Yellowstone Park region. Owing to favorable conditions surrounding both the northern and southern herds the elk remained in the high country much later than usual, consequently the period during which they were compelled to seek the lower level and depend upon precarious food conditions and artificial feeding was shortened. Mr. Murie says that the past winter was probably the most favorable that the elk have had in recent years.

Passenger—"Could I see the captain?"

First Mate—"He's forward, Miss."

"I'm not afraid. I'm used to men."

Better DUCK Shooting



Order Wild Rice Seed Now For Spring Planting. Thousands of ducks will come to an established rice field. We also have wild celery, Sago Pond plant, Wapato duck potato and other attractions for waterfowl and fur bearers. Also parched wild rice for table use.

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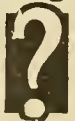
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Montana State Shoot Sets Record

MONTANA'S forty-second annual trapshooting tournament, staged by the Helena Gun Club July 19-21, has gone down into sport history as the largest and most enthusiastic clay pigeon event ever held in the Treasure State. A new attendance record of 110 shooters was established. Two years ago the Helena club established the record of 92 and broke it again at the recent tournament. Shooters from all parts of the northwest came to participate. From as far away as Shreveport, Louisiana, came Ed Dickinson and G. T. (Bud) Dreyfus and the rivalry was keen. Montana had issued a 10-man team challenge against a similar team from any state for a \$1,000 purse, but the challenge, unfortunately, was not accepted. Just a few weeks before the Montana shoot the Treasure State team had defeated Washington stars by 15 targets in a 200-bird race at the Washington shoot at Spokane. At that same shoot Otto A. Schulz of Sheridan tied for the famed Yakima Hundred honors but lost the medal in the shoot-off to Hugh McElroy.

At the annual banquet of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, which sponsors the shoot, Colonel D. Gay Stivers of Butte was selected president with J. A. (Bert) Poore of Butte vice-president and C. H. Smith of Butte secretary-treasurer for the 37th consecutive year. The 1930 shoot will be held at Butte. The banquet, held on the mezzanine floor of the Placer hotel, was one of the enjoyable features of the state event. President Fred E. Kessler presided. Shooters brought their wives and families. Trophies presented by the Montana Standard in the telegraphic tournament were presented to Billings as shoot-off winners, Butte as winners of the telegraphic end, to O. A. Schulz as high individual and to the three high members of the Billings team, who nosed out Helena by a single target in the 150-bird finals.

A. M. (Tony) Hoover of Minneapolis came from Minnesota to cashier the shoot. He was ably assisted by Earl Fry of Seattle and C. L. Flannigan of Great Falls. Hoover was presented with a Montana gold nugget from Last Chance gulch, which is now Helena's site, set with a sapphire mined near the city, as a memento from the Helena club.

For the information of Montana sportsmen the scores of the three days of competition are herewith presented:

	July 19	July 20	July 21	
	150	10	150	100 100
	16-yd	pr	16-yd	16-yd Hdc
Gregory, G. C.	147	142	95	86
Miller, Earl	143	15	143	97 92
Fry, Earl	124	115	85	....
Sullivan, S. J.	142	15	136	95 92
Patrick, D. W.	144	144	96	92
Sharman, S. H.	147	16	145	100 92
Rothrock, V. W.	142	19	144	99 92
South, G. A.*	140	16	144	96 86

State Champions

Singles—Guy F. Egbers, Livingston, member Helena Gun Club, 198x200.
Doubles—Frank G. Knight, Great Falls, 47x50.
Handicap—E. W. Renfro, Monida, 96x100, from 25 yards, won shoot-off from Guy Egbers, C. V. Gruner of Helena, V. W. Rothrock of Billings and Nick Birrer.
All-Around—Guy F. Egbers, 337x350, with E. W. Renfro runner-up with 336x350.
Woman Champion—Mrs. D. Gay Stivers of Butte, 175x200.
Professional Singles—Charles L. Flannigan of Great Falls, 195x200.
Professional Doubles—Gordon A. South of Great Falls, 38x50.
Professional Handicap—C. L. Flannigan, 86x100, from 24 yards.
Professional All-Around—C. L. Flannigan, 317x350, G. A. South runner-up with 316.

Arnold, S. C.	147	17	148	96	92
Egbers, Guy	141	14	150	98	96
Flannigan, C. L.*	145	17	147	97	86
Wilcoxson, W. R.	146	17	145	99	95
Knight, Frank	91x100	18	138	94	90
Yealey, L. J.	141	19	144	97	94
Tomcheck, Steve	133	17	135	94	93
Hill, R. H.	140	142	98	86	....
Kessler, F. E.	134	142	95	94	....
Chatfield, M. D.	131	132	91	84	....
Walker, Ed.	140	145	98	89	....
Macartney, Geo.	135	138	91	91	....
Becker, Gus	142	18	143	97	93
Stump, Cliff	146	19	138	97	79
Reilly, C. H.	143	18	144	95	86
McGanney, F.	144	19	146	99	86
McKenzie, R. H.	141	16	146	98	73
Angvick, Lars	130	14	120	90	81
McMahan, T. T.	141	17	137	98	90
Johnson, J. E.	139	10	141	96	92
Mrs. Stivers	126	10	133	89	82
Prosser, R.	142	50x50	91	93	....
Richards, S. J.	130	130	85	....	....
Murray, Jos.	142	143	98	....	....
Boehme, Jack	144	18	144	87	83
Cronenberg, L.	134	15	134	85	76
Dickinson, E.	137	17	137	91	....
Hart, H. L.	141	14	142	93	87
Stivers, D. G.	143	14	139	99	82
Schulz, Mrs. O.	117	64x100	....	....	....
Shaw, H.	140	13	86x100	....	....
Owens, H. L.*	119	9	120	93	71
Poore, J. A.	130	16	132	88	94
Latimer, Joe	141	17	138	92	87
Schulz, O. A.	142	17	144	98	89
Renfro, E. W.	145	19	146	98	96
Robinson, J. J.	145	18	141	94	89
Snyder, H.	140	19	140	98	84
Jones, G. T.	130	13	141	94	92
Schulz, L.	131	16	133	81	77
Schulz, T.	138	17	134	87	90
Pease, H.	134	17	135	83	84
Blain, T. H.	....	88x100	....	....	....
Rogers, Bob	....	....	91	82	....
Campbell, C. O.	147	146	99	93	....
Coffaa	132	135	86	85	....
Prater, R. A.	143	143	97	89	....
Davies, V.	87	....	....	....	....
Fultz, W. S.	144	144	95	90	....
Dreyfus, G. T.	126	80x100	....	....	....
Larabie, T. E.	140	17	140	95	85
Converse, J. R.*	149	11	144	93	81
Birrer, N. J.	145	19	144	95	96
Holter, Ben	145	19	136	94	93
Morrison, E. J.	142	17	128	93	90
Staples, C. F.	141	137	96	92	....
Smith, C. H.	125	15	127	85	85
Lafferty, D. L.	146	18	139	96	....
Goddard, C. C.	143	17	136	97	92
Pappin, F.	142	13	131	89	78
Samuelson, A.	133	121	90	....	....
Frazer, Gus	136	136	91	89	....
Doe, E. J.	146	142	97	95	....
Sproat, T.	140	141	93	82	....
Schulz, Mrs. L. R.	72x100	....	....	....	....
Bossler, R. H.	72x100	....	....	....	....
Gruner, C. V.	136	133	92	96	....

Safely, A. V.	143	13	92x100	92	82
Gruner, Geo.	136	105	84	64	....
Dyer, R. H.	42x50	....	....	....	....
Longnecker, E. C.	....	128	88	87	....
Groves, Jos.	....	146	....	....	....
Hale, H. L.	....	135	91	94	....
Lattimer, Mrs.	75x100	....	....	....	....
Hasley, Wm.	....	140	91	79	....
Schwartz, E. C.	....	133	70	76	....
Tuttle, C. A.	....	117	84	86	....
Tonsor, J. R.	....	110	80	....	....
Roy, W. J.	....	99	72	....	....
McNeal, C. L.	....	138	93	83	....
McLeod, A. B.	....	120	87	88	....
Wahle, Ben	94x100	84x100	93	85	....
Dakin, E. G.	....	131	....	....	....
Dorricott, F.	....	142	90	91	....
McFarland, L. S.	....	128	92	....	....
Leary, Jas.	....	145	87	93	....
Tolson, F.	....	123	79	80	....
Rogers, R. E.	....	45x50	....	....	....
Hodge, M. W.	....	41x50	90	....	....
Ellinghouse, A. C.	....	45x50	96	82	....
Wamben, I. E.	....	36x50	....	....	....
Kennedy, C. P.	....	45x50	91	89	....
Tally, Albert	....	....	88	94	....
Halverson, T. E.	....	....	86	82	....
Haupt, Dan	....	....	90	85	....
Fultz, W. S.	144	....	....	....	....
Birrer, Mrs. N.	85x100	....	....	....	....
McFarland, L. D.	128	....	....	91	....
Forrester, Roy	....	....	....	93	92
Henderson, Milt	....	....	....	90	....
Schwartz, E. C.	....	....	....	76	....
Murray	....	....	....	92	....
Richards	....	....	....	89	....
Smith, F. L.	....	....	....	78	....
Winant, J. G.	....	....	....	88	....

*Indicates professional.

Out-O'-Door Holiday

By RALPH CHEYNEY

The big wind walks
 Where red chief stalks
 The deer that bounds above the sod
 Like a living, breathless piston rod,
 And talks aloud to the great Red God,
 The God of woods and clear, wild
 waters,
 Of Whom the stars and peaks are
 daughters.

I am the chief—on my holiday.
 I'm free and off and miles away
 From the wilderness of steel and stone
 That cannot make our hearts its own,
 The wilderness that is made, not grown.
 Out here where winds and waters rush
 But no man drives me and no mobs
 crush

I swear I almost touch the hush.
 And yet each brook and tree's a friend
 Who croons a song that has no end.
 Fancy? Yes, but far more real
 Than the jail I've left of clock and
 wheel!
 The air is good to smell and feel.
 Enough remains as yet of the wild
 To keep my spirit reconciled—
 For man is nature's truant child.

A WISE FATHER

Operator: "I love your daughter and would suffer if I caused her a moment's sorrow."
 Father: "You'd suffer, all right. I know her."