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HORRIBILIS  
BAIRDI

PHOTO BY  
W.M. RUSH

# *Dawn In the Beartooths*

*By Marvin D. Geere*

*BIRDS* are caroling in the pines and the first few rays of a golden sunrise are showing themselves in the distant snow-capped peaks which, in return, reflect the glory of it all to a sleeping wilderness below.

*It is a morning of rare beauty and the great giant crags off in the east lie like sleeping kings robed in purple gloom, while the pale light creeps behind them and the great forest forms a belt of deeper hue around their base.*

*Tall firs and pines overshadow the waters of the lake and are reflected in the stillness of this glorious dawn.*

*Suddenly the sun bursts above the distant rugged horizon and we stand breathless in wonder and admiration, for there, among the pines that people the slopes, millions of raindrops that have fallen during the night are clinging to the trees, where they catch the golden rays and reflect them a thousand fold, while they sparkle and gleam like myriads of diamonds on a robe of the softest bluish green.*

*Everywhere is peace and quietness, broken only by the faint rumble of a distant waterfall as it leaps over a granite wall eager to find rest in the lake below. How it sparkles and gleams in the morning sun which seems to turn the faint veil of mist into beautiful rainbow prisms.*

*But with the approaching dawn comes a whispering breeze and just as the sun's first gleam kissed the waters, little wavelets break the mirror-like surface of the lake and God has given another wonderful day to the Beartooths.*



# MONTANA WILD LIFE

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NO. 4

## Bird Season Is Opened In Montana

WITH another important meeting of the Montana State Fish and Game Commission scheduled for September 29 at Helena, at which time petitions of sportsmen in other counties will be considered for the opening of the season on Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges, the action of the Commission at the meeting August 25 will be amplified. The formal order of the Commission at the August meeting follows:

Chairman T. N. Marlowe and State Fish and Game Warden Robert H. Hill presented to the Commission requests from sportsmen and their clubs for an open season on Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges. After the requests had been summarized, the following order was made:

Motion by Mr. Marlowe: "I move that the open season for the hunting of Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges be from November 2 to November 6, both dates inclusive." Motion lost for want of a second.

Motion by Mr. Moore: "I move that the following described territory be opened to the shooting of male Chinese pheasants for the season of 1930: Rosebud county, Chouteau county, Phillips county, Stillwater county, Big Horn county, Fergus county, Yellowstone county, Carbon county, Flathead county, Beaverhead county, Powell county, Deer Lodge county, Cascade county, Lewis and Clark county, Ravalli county, except that part of the county which is covered by the Bitter Root Stock Farm; all that portion of Sanders county drained by the Little Bitter Root River, all of Missoula county south of a line running east and west through the town of Lolo, and all that portion of Lake county except that which is drained by the Jocko River and its tributaries; and the following described territory be opened to the shooting of Hungarian partridges of either sex for the season of 1930: Blaine county, Chouteau county, Phillips county, Stillwater county, Fergus county, Yellowstone county, Gallatin county, Hill county, Flathead county, Teton county, Beaverhead county, Powell county, Deer Lodge county, Glacier county, Cascade county, Lewis and Clark county, Ravalli county, except that part of the county which is covered by the Bitter Root Stock Farm; that portion of Sanders county drained by the Little Bitter Root River; all of Missoula county south of a line running east and west through the town of Lolo; and all that portion of Lake county except that which is drained by the Jocko River and

its tributaries; and that the open season on these birds for 1930 begin with the 23rd day of November and end with the 27th day of November, 1930, both dates inclusive; and that the bag limit be three birds per day, which may include three Hungarian partridges of either sex or three Chinese cocks, or three in the aggregate, it being the intention of the Commission that the bag limit shall be but three birds per day, whether they be male Chinese pheasants or Hungarian partridges of either sex; and that no person shall have in his possession more than six of any such birds at any one time." Seconded by Mr. Kelly. Carried.

It was agreed that, should the Secretary receive any further requests from sportsmen's clubs for an open season on these birds in other counties, should he see fit, the Secretary may add them to the lists.

The question was discussed as to whether there should be an open season on deer in Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux and Richland counties, and the following order was made:

Motion. Mr. Moore: "I move that there be a closed season on deer of both sexes in Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux and Richland counties, in their entirety, until further order of the Fish and Game Commission." Seconded by Mr. Marlowe. Carried.

After a discussion of the increased work at the hatcheries throughout the state, the following order was made:

Motion. Mr. Moore: "I move that Chairman Marlowe be instructed to continue his correspondence to see if he can not locate the right man to take charge of the fisheries work, in the capacity of Superintendent of Fisheries, this matter to be acted upon at the next meeting of the Commission." Seconded by Mr. Boyd. Carried.

The meeting of the State Fish and Game Commission was held at Helena, August 25. Those present were Commissioners T. N. Marlowe, Chairman; E. A. Wilson, W. K. Moore, J. L. Kelly and G. T. Boyd; Secretary Robert H. Hill, and Field Assistants Treece and Schofield.

Game Warden R. H. Hill presented to the Commission petitions for and against the creation of a game preserve in Judith Basin county, to be known as the Black Tail Hills Game Preserve, by sportsmen of Stanford and vicinity. He reported that Assistant Warden Jack W. Carney had held a hearing at Stanford relative to the creation of the preserve, at which hearing the general sentiment had been against it. The following order was made on motion of J. L. Kelly: "I move that the petition for the creation of a game preserve in Judith Basin county, to be known as the Black Tail Hills Game Preserve, be denied." It was seconded by W. K. Moore and carried.

Chairman T. N. Marlowe presented a petition from residents of Wolf Creek asking the Commission to close to fishing for two years Sheep Creek, from its source to its mouth, where it empties into the Little Prickly Pear Creek. The fish in this creek are about three inches in length and a closed season will allow them to grow and propagate. The plau was approved.

C. H. Martien, Lewis and Clark county assessor, and Tom Sillers, county commissioner, explained that beaver have built dams on the county road up Beaver Creek, injuring the road and making it unsafe. The beaver dams have

### Prairie Chicken's Requiem

Prairie chickens in the coulee,  
Grouse and quail by every stream—  
I just stuff my pipe at bedtime  
And hug close that dear old dream,  
When they courted on the stubble  
And went nesting up the draw,  
Ere "no hunting" signs were posted,  
And there was more love than law.  
There is splendor in the pheasant  
As he flashes down the air,  
But he's just a bit too kingly,  
Just a bit too debonair,  
And my heart turns from his whirring  
To that coaxing boom, boom saw,  
When a sod shack was my palace,  
And there was more love than law.  
Millionaires now go a-hunting  
In a lot of uppish togs,  
Heading in at dusk to hotels  
With their lordly English dogs,  
I don't fault them, I don't envy,  
I'm no hand to pick a flaw,  
But oh, boom, boom, boom of chickens,  
When there was more love than law!

—Will Chamberlain in Minneapolis Journal.

to be shot out each day. They asked the assistance of the Commission in removing these beaver and on motion of Mr. Kelly Mr. Hill was directed to investigate this situation and take such action as possible to eliminate the damage to the county road.

Chairman Marlowe presented a petition from the Hamilton Sportsmen's Club and in compliance therewith made the following motion: "I move that the South Fork of the West Fork of the Bitter Root River and its tributaries, south of Alta, Montana, as well as Hughes Creek and its tributaries, in Ravalli county, be closed to all fishing until further order of the Commission." Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Carried.

Mr. Marlowe read a petition from the Thompson Falls Rod and Gun Club, asking that the Commission close to fishing all the tributaries of the Big Thompson River, and the plan was approved.

Mr. Kelly advised that there are several mountain lakes in Deer Lodge, Granite and Powell counties on which the closed season is extended to July 1 of each year, and it was his suggestion that all streams running into these lakes should also have an extended closed season, in order to protect the fish that go up these streams from the lakes for spawning. The motion prevailed that all the streams flowing into the lakes in Granite and Deer Lodge counties, with the exception of the following lakes: Georgetown, Echo, Moose and Silver; and all the streams flowing into Gold Creek, Dolis, Trask, Dempsey and Thornton Lakes, in Powell county, be closed to fishing from March 15 to June 30, both dates inclusive, inasmuch as the lakes themselves are closed to fishing during the said period.

Mr. Hill presented a petition from the Big Horn County Rod and Gun Club, asking that Dry Head Creek and its tributaries be opened to fishing during the regular open season. Mr. Schofield asked that the stream be kept closed to fishing and the Commission approved.

Mr. Marlowe read a petition from Jefferson county sportsmen, asking that Lump Gulch Creek and all its tributaries, in Jefferson county, be closed to fishing. The matter was held over until the next meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Hill read a letter from the Upper Musselshell Valley Sportsmen's Association of Harlowton, asking the Commission to reconsider its action and to open to fishing Sixteen Mile Creek. This creek, in Meagher county, had been closed at the request of George L. Philippe, and in Gallatin county at the request of the Bozeman club.

On motion of Mr. Moore, asserting that inasmuch as a large portion of this stream is in Gallatin county, Mr. Hill was instructed to investigate this petition, taking up the matter with the Bozeman club, and no action was taken until the next meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Hill read a petition from the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club, asking that Deep Creek, in Broadwater county, be closed to fishing until May 21, 1931; that the Missouri River be declared open

## Montana Marten



**T**HE picture shown above is ample proof that marten, valuable little fur animals, can be successfully raised in pens in Montana. The picture was taken at the Absarokee Fur Farms.

the year around to fishing with hook and line, and that a deputy warden be detailed at least part time to the Deep Creek district. The petition, so far as the closing of Deep Creek is concerned, was granted, this stream and all its tributaries to be closed to fishing from September 11, 1930, to May 21, 1931, both dates inclusive.

The Secretary presented a petition from the Beaverhead Sportsmen's Association, asking that the stream which is an outlet from the Decker rearing pond, be closed, and also the stream from the Gordon rearing pond, at Armstead, to protect the small fish therein. Dr. Treece recommended the closing of these streams. The petition was granted, thereby closing to all fishing until further order of the Commission the stream leading from the Decker rearing pond, at Armstead, Montana, to Horse Prairie Creek, and the stream leading from the Gordon rearing pond, at Armstead, Montana, to the Beaverhead River, Beaverhead county, Montana.

J. S. James, State Engineer, explained that he had surveyed the Fox Lake proposition, and had found that with the building of a dyke about 3,000 feet long and the digging of a ditch about 1,000 feet long, the water could be so dammed as to maintain an even level and provide an excellent rearing site for ducks. Mr. Moore explained that he had been unable to secure permission from the Great Northern Railroad to build this dam, and although the building of the dam would not interfere with the railroad's right-of-way, still it would infringe upon it, and their permission is necessary. Mr. Moore also explained that some of this land is held by a

muskrat farm, and he had made a bid for the Commission for the 264 acres owned by this company. Mr. James was requested to make a sketch of the proposed work at Fox Lake and turn over the plat to Mr. Hill, and that Mr. Hill take up this matter with the proper Great Northern officials for permission to connect with their right-of-way.

Mr. James was requested to prepare such specifications as may be necessary for the construction of the work outlined at Fox Lake; that the Secretary, upon receipt of these specifications, advertise for bids for the work, subject to the right of the Commission to reject any and all bids; that Mr. Moore be requested to get the necessary easements from land owners around this lake whose property will be affected by the construction of this dam; and that if the information which Mr. Hill receives from the Great Northern Railroad officials is satisfactory, that he be authorized to go ahead and let the contract at once, in order to give employment to as many unemployed at this time as possible.

Mr. James advised that he had also made an inspection of the proposed duck refuge near Forsyth. The Forsyth Rod and Gun Club owns property about 15 miles out of Forsyth, which at one time was used as a stock reservoir. The sportsmen in that vicinity are anxious to have a dam built there to raise the water about five feet, which would create a pond covering between 50 and 100 acres. Mr. James estimated the cost of this work at about \$4,000. It was decided that before such work could be done by the Commission the land should be deeded to the Commission to insure this being a public shooting ground. Mr. Moore was requested to ascertain whether the Forsyth Rod and Gun Club would agree to deed the land on which the proposed dam is to be built to the State Fish and Game Commission.

Mr. Hill reported that he and Mr. James had made a trip to Red Rock Lake and had made an investigation of conditions there. Mr. Hill advised that competitive bids had been received for the dam to be built there, and that the bid had been let to the lowest bidders, Blaz Lugar, Jr., and Faye Selby of Lakeview, for \$2,560.10. Mr. James explained that with the building of this dam the highest water level will be only seven inches above this year's low water level, which will but keep the water at a normal water level, and which will not injure any property in this district.

Mr. Hill read a petition from a few residents of Beaverhead county, asking for the creation of a bird refuge to protect sage hens and grouse on land covered from Dry Gulch to the west, the Oregon Short Line tracks on the north, and the Idaho state line on the south and east. The Secretary was instructed to get an expression from the Beaverhead Sportsmen's Association.

Mr. Hill explained that the Butte Anglers' Club had been anxious to start the work of building rearing ponds at Maiden Rock, for which work they had asked the Commission to donate \$1,500 for cooperation in building these ponds. Mr. Hill and Dr. Treece had made an

inspection of this proposed work, and had given the Butte Anglers' Club permission to start work, with the understanding that the Commission would donate \$1,500. On motion of Mr. Kelly the action of Mr. Hill and Dr. Treece, in cooperation with the Butte Anglers' Club, in letting the contract for the rearing ponds at Maiden Rock, was approved.

Mr. Hill read a requisition from Mr. Schofield of the fall spawn specie eggs he would need for the Eastern district. Included in the requisition were loch leven trout eggs and Mr. Thompson at the Federal hatchery at Bozeman was requested to deliver five million loch leven trout eggs to the Fish and Game Commission this year.

Dr. Treece advised that the cooperative work of the Department with Mr. Drew will furnish enough eastern brook eggs to fill Mr. Schofield's requisition.

Mr. Hill read a letter from A. M. Hoover of Minneapolis, wherein he called to the attention of the Commission the fact that Lake Morrison, near Dell, is full of trout of a small size, but that there is not sufficient food to make the growth of these fish possible. Dr. Treece was instructed to investigate and do whatever is necessary to remedy the situation.

Mr. Hill advised that Hardin sportsmen had asked for the cooperation of the Commission in building three rearing ponds in their district. The club was anxious to get this work done, and Mr. Schofield had advised that the sites were satisfactory. Mr. Hill explained that he had authorized the construction of these rearing ponds, and had promised the club \$200 from the Fish and Game Commission for cooperation in this work. Action was ratified.

Mr. Hill advised that the wild life exhibit of the Department, in cooperation with the Bureau of Biological Survey, had been collected this year and had been shown at the State Fair. He outlined the itinerary of the exhibit at the fairs throughout the state. This action was approved.

Mr. Marlowe read a request from the Deer Lodge Anglers' Club, asking that a portion of Powell county be open to the shooting of bull elk. Mr. Moore advised that Senator Williams has been feeding these elk all winter and wishes them protected. The last open season on elk in this county had not proven successful. On motion of Mr. Kelly the request of the Deer Lodge Anglers' Club for an open season on bull elk in Powell county was denied.

With reference to the request of the Deer Lodge Anglers' Club for rearing ponds on the Little Blackfoot, Dr. Treece advised that he had made a careful examination of conditions in the Little Blackfoot, and had found that the loch leven in these waters seem to be eating the native trout. Dr. Treece recommended the closing of all tributaries to the Little Blackfoot to fishing, and stocking these tributaries heavily with native fry, and on motion of Mr. Marlowe all the tributaries of the Little Blackfoot River, from its source to its mouth, in Powell county, were closed to all fishing until further order of the Commission, and that Dr. Treece was

## Pals are Able Anglers



**M**R. AND MRS. IRA F. BOONE of Helena are listed among the foremost anglers of the township. They are thoroughly steeped with the thrill of sportsmanship and do their fishing and hunting together. They are shown above with a catch of rainbow and loch leven trout made on the Lower Madison Lake six miles from Ennis. The trout were all hooked on silver doctor and major pitcher flies.

instructed to stock these tributaries heavily with native fry.

The Deer Lodge Anglers' Club also requested that Mud Lake in Powell county be opened to ice fishing, and that the closed season be suspended on Cottonwood Creek, running through the town of Deer Lodge, Powell county, this creek thereby being open to fishing during the entire year until further order of the Commission. Approved.

The request from the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club for ice fishing for whitefish in the Missouri River was tabled.

Mr. Kelly advised that some additional work is necessary at the State Game Farm. Equipment for shelters for the pens should be purchased, some additional coops should be built, and storm sashes for windows on the residence should be purchased. Mr. Kelly gave a quotation for this work of approximately \$450. Mr. Kelly was instructed to get the material necessary for the shelters for the pens and the storm sashes for the windows, and have these installed at the best price possible.

Mr. Kelly advised that if the Commission desires to continue raising as many Chinese pheasants at the game farm for liberation next year as were liberated this year, approximately 100 additional pens should be built, and he was instructed to oversee getting approximately 100 more pens built.

Mr. Kelly stated that Superintendent J. F. Hendricks would like a small warehouse in which to store his coops, shipping crates and feed during the winter months, and Mr. Kelly was authorized and directed to have a suitable warehouse constructed.

Mr. Kelly advised that the barrels of gasoline which are kept at the game farm are a fire hazard and offered to try to get a gas pump for use at the game farm.

Inasmuch as several requests had been made by sportsmen and sportsmen's clubs for the closing of the season on native upland game birds in the state, in order to protect them this year, the following order was made on motion of Mr. Moore: "I move, on account of the scarcity of native upland game birds, and to prevent undue depletion of the same, that there be a closed season on all native upland game birds for the season of 1930 in the State of Montana."

Dr. Treece advised that the ice house at the Anaconda hatchery needs straightening, lowering and a new foundation, and he was authorized to get bids for repairing the ice house at the Anaconda hatchery, and submit same at the next meeting.

Dr. Treece advised that he had secured competitive bids for the painting of all the buildings at the Anaconda hatchery.

Mr. Schofield stated that, in accordance with the orders of the Commission, he had secured bids for the moving of the buildings at the Emigrant hatchery to the Anderson hatchery site. He has one bid of \$1,500 from H. B. Mayers and another bid of \$1,400 from D. M. Crenshaw of Livingston. The six buildings must be moved three miles and across the Yellowstone River. The bid of D. M. Crenshaw of Livingston was accepted, the buildings to be moved intact without dismantling or cutting in parts.

Mr. Schofield advised that he has bids for making the foundations at the Anderson site for the buildings and floors, of which the bid of Charles J. Knapp of Livingston for \$1,528 is the lowest. On motion of E. A. Wilson Charles J. Knapp, contractor of Livingston was awarded the contract for the foundations and installation of the buildings being moved from the Emigrant hatchery site to the Anderson site, his bid being \$1,528.

Mr. Marlowe read a request from the Beaverhead Sportsmen's Club for the closing of the Beaverhead River to fishing from the Clark's Canyon Bridge to the north line of Ed Roe's Ranch, the closing of Horse Prairie Creek from its mouth to the Brown Ranch, and the closing of Blacktail Creek one mile each side of the rearing ponds, all of which are in Beaverhead county, the closed season to be from August 1 of each year to May 20 of the succeeding year, inclusive, in addition to the regular closed season. This would protect the small fish which have been liberated in these waters from the rearing ponds.

On motion of Mr. Kelly the following streams were closed to fishing from August 1 of each year to May 20 of the succeeding year, both dates inclusive, in addition to the regular closed season, until further order of the Commission: The Beaverhead River from Clark's Canyon Bridge to the north line of Ed Roe's Ranch; Horse Prairie Creek, from its mouth to the Brown Ranch; and the Blacktail Creek, for one mile each side

of the rearing ponds, all of which are in Beaverhead county.

Mr. Marlowe advised that there is available for \$250 a half acre of ground adjacent to the Somers fish hatchery. The land upon which this hatchery is located is limited, and an additional half acre could be used to advantage, and it was directed that the Fish and Game Commission purchase the ground adjacent to the Somers fish hatchery from Ben McKinley for a sum not to exceed \$250.

Mr. Marlowe presented a request from the Mountain Range Trout Company and the Montana Rainbow Trout Company for permission to set traps, pocket seines or other similar devices in Flat-head Lake for the purpose of taking suckers and squawfish for use as a fish food, the work to be done under the supervision of one of the deputy game wardens, and it was denied.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter from L. E. Throop of Troy wherein Mr. Throop advised that he has a pond full of small-mouth bass which he would like to dispose of so that he can raise trout. Mr. Throop suggested that possibly he and the Department could make a trade of bass and trout.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter from Glen A. Smith, chairman of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, expressing dissatisfaction felt by the members of the governing board of that body with the attainments of Mr. John C. Frohlicher as Educational Secretary, and recommending that Mr. Frohlicher's resignation be accepted.

Motion. Mr. Moore: "Inasmuch as the Sportsmen's Association has accepted the resignation of Mr. Frohlicher as their secretary, I move that we, the Montana Fish and Game Commission, accept his resignation as Educational Secretary, to be effective September 1, 1930." Seconded by Mr. Boyd. Carried.

Another letter from Mr. Smith, wherein he suggested a successor to Mr. Frohlicher, was read. Other names of men who might be fitted for the position of educational secretary were also suggested.

Motion. Mr. Kelly: "I move that the appointment of an educational secretary be deferred until the next meeting." Seconded by Mr. Boyd. Carried.

The question of deputy game wardens attending the meetings of local rod and gun clubs was discussed, and the Secretary was authorized to write all deputy game wardens, asking them to attend the sportsmen's meetings.

Mr. Marlowe stated that Jones Lake, in Powell county, which is closed to fishing, is full of yellow perch, and suggested that these perch be seined out of the lake and planted in other waters in the state.

Motion. Mr. Moore: "I move that the chairman be instructed to investigate this proposition and communicate with Mr. Schofield with reference to his findings, and that he have full power to act in taking yellow perch from this lake." Seconded by Mr. Boyd. Carried.

Mr. Wilson advised that the water in the Shields River and its tributaries, Park county, is low, and that these waters should be closed to fishing. The Wilsall club has also recommended such action. The Shields River and its trib-

utaries, in Park county, were closed to fishing from September 10, 1930, to May 20, 1931, both dates inclusive.

Mr. Marlowe advised that in reply to his questionnaire sent to the sportsmen's clubs throughout the state, soliciting their opinions as to whether or not the small streams in the state should be closed at an early date this fall, the consensus of opinion had been about evenly divided. Water conditions in the state are better now than they were earlier in the season. Therefore, no action was taken in this matter.

In connection with the transfer of buildings from the Emigrant to the Anderson hatchery site, it was decided that Mr. Schofield should also have the fence moved which is now on the Emigrant hatchery site.

Mr. Wilson suggested that the Department expend some money for labor to remove the fencing which is on land purchased through Federal cooperation with an eastern corporation for grazing ground for the northern elk herd. No money was appropriated for the removal of this fence, and its removal would improve range conditions on this land. It

was agreed to expend not to exceed \$150 for labor in tearing down fences on the land acquired for the range of the northern elk herd, in Park county.

Discussion followed as to whether or not there should be an open trapping season on marten and a closed season on the trapping of muskrats. No action was taken in this matter.

Mr. Hill asked the Commission if it is their desire to prosecute sheep-herders who are carrying guns on game preserves without permits to do so. He was authorized to advise wardens to prosecute these cases.

The Secretary read a letter from R. A. Broadwell of Spokane, suggesting that he be allowed to take eggs from Lake Kibbrennan on a cooperative basis with the Fish and Game Department. He was instructed to write Mr. Broadwell that the Department already has a cooperative agreement of this nature with Mr. Drew.

The chairman read a similar letter from P. V. Klink of Fortine, who wants to take eastern brook trout eggs from Martin Lake on a percentage basis. Dr. Treece was instructed to investigate.

## Playful Grizzlies

A motion has been made and seconded that the name of the Blackfoot Forest be changed to Grizzly National Forest.

At 9:40 p. m., July 25, William Reimer, combination man at Nashukoin Lookout in the Upper North Fork district, was dispatched to a fire several miles west of his station. The night was clear and there was sufficient light to travel without the use of the Stone-bridge.

About midnight he removed his pack and proceeded to take "five." A minute later the sound of breaking twigs and branches caused him to glance in the direction from whence he came. Before he realized it a large grizzly was "bearing" down on him. Bill says he figured it was no disgrace to run when scared, so he started to make tracks for a tree.

Glancing back as he ran, he saw the bear rear up, and the next moment one heavy paw landed between his shoulders while the other one would have to be classed as a foul blow.

Bill landed face down. He says that he would have taken the count if his assailant had been a man. Turning onto his back, he started kicking to try and keep the bear away until he could get his gun.

Mr. Grizzly grabbed him by the toe of the left shoe, and, rearing up, proceeded to shake. Reimer says that when his head wasn't hitting against rocks or windfalls, it was bumping against the bear's body and hind legs. Both front paws were holding his leg while the bear continued to twist and pull and get a mouthful of calks and shoe leather.

Finally Reimer managed to get his Colt's .32-20 from the holster and, while dangling head down, back against the grizzly, put five shots into the bear's body, without any apparent effect, although the blood spurted from the wounds over his torn clothing.

Realizing that he must make the last shot count for more than the others, he took a chance on hitting his own leg and fired up at any angle into the bear's chest. It was bad medicine for the bear, and no doubt saved Bill's life. The bear snarled, let loose of Bill's foot, and for a moment folded his huge paws across his body. Then, apparently dazed, he rushed away, several times bumping into trees and rocks.

Upon taking inventory, Bill found, in addition to torn clothes, numerous bruises and a sore back, that one foot suggested advance and the other retreat. By twisting his left leg, after wedging his foot between a rock and a windfall, he was able to throw it back into joint at the hip.

Using the axe and shovel handles as canes, he managed to limp and crawl back to his station, arriving at 4:00 a. m. He immediately reported to headquarters and another man was dispatched to the fire.

Reimer was brought out to the road by horse and in to Kalispell for medical attention. It probably will be two or three months before he can do any sprinting.

This is the second time in recent years that grizzlies have temporarily laid up employes in the North Fork country. In 1928 Ralph Thayer, trail locator, had a narrow escape and was under a doctor's care for some time before being able to resume work. In 1929 Ranger McDonnell of Tally Lake was the objective of two grizzlies at the same time. Fortunately, he saw them coming and had sufficient time to shin up a tree out of reach.

Second-hand guns in the North Fork country are today bringing a higher price than at any time since the World War. It is said that Rangers Fremming and Bealey have laid aside their Luger and .38 toys in favor of some Big Berthas.

## Save the Ducks, Is Advice to Sportsmen

**B**ECAUSE of the unsatisfactory conditions existing for migratory waterfowl throughout Montana and generally throughout the nation, Montana's State Fish and Game Commission has sent out an appeal to sportsmen generally to "save the seed ducks" as the basis for next year's native crop, despite the fact that the open season started September 16 and continues until the first of the year.

Because of the drought, recommendation was recently made to shorten the duck shooting season by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention at Toronto.

A survey of the nesting grounds in Canada, where Montana ducks originate, where 85 per cent of the wild ducks are raised, shows that only 50 per cent of the usual hatch was hatched this year. Lack of water was cited as the major cause for the small hatch, according to the various Provincial game commissioners.

The ducks that leave Canada on their annual flight south this year will face a grave problem throughout the winter because of the drying up of thousands of lakes, ponds and streams.

Although fall rains may fill many of these watering places, the drying up of them killed aquatic duck foods. Roots that may remain alive will not sprout again until spring. The ducks will face a food shortage, so sportsmen and other nature lovers should prepare now to feed the flights of ducks, geese and other migratory birds.

That conditions for waterfowl in the extensive drought-ridden regions of the United States are unsatisfactory will not be a matter of surprise to Montana persons who have experienced a water shortage this summer. That the danger to wild ducks and geese is more far-flung, however, will come as a shock to those who have thought the birds were in abundance on their breeding areas in the far North, according to Paul G. Redington, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Redington explained that reports show an alarming condition for the waterfowl on the breeding grounds in Alberta and Saskatchewan, as well as in the United States.

"In these Canadian provinces," writes Mr. Redington, "the shortage of water this year and the utilization of additional lands for agriculture on the breeding grounds of the birds have combined to reduce the hatch of the game species 50 per cent below that of last year, and the hatch a year ago was too far below normal to be at all satisfactory. The consensus of testimony of conservationists from many Canadian provinces and from all parts of the United States is that a decidedly serious condition now confronts the waterfowl of the two countries.

"A partial remedy is found in the fact that throughout the United States the amended regulations under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act limit the indi-

vidual hunter to 15 ducks and 4 geese a day and prescribe a possession limit of two days' bag. This reduction from last year's daily bag limit of 25 ducks and 8 geese and the establishment of a possession limit for the first time under the Federal regulations should have a salutary effect on the game birds at the principal shooting grounds. We are still greatly concerned, however, as to what may happen in the next few months. The unprecedented drought may upset calculations as to the effect the reduced bag limit will have on the protection of the birds.

"Local observers of bird abundance are likely to be misled in some remaining water areas, and to consider that local conditions are general throughout the country. As a matter of fact, however, the constriction of water areas in many states will induce the birds to concentrate in unusually large numbers on some of the noted resting grounds and in wintering areas. For example, the gunners in some areas may find thousands of ducks in places where last year there were but hundreds, and in such instances it may create the erroneous impression that ducks are still in great abundance or even increasing in numbers. Such fallacious reasoning may lead to excessive killing on many concentration areas.

"All who are engaged in game conservation in the Federal and state governments must consider thoroughly and carefully what measures we can take to prevent unwise or possibly disastrous

slaughter of these species of birds that are already suffering serious losses by reason of the drought."

Only one duck in 10,000 is alive today in districts where waterfowl foods have been contaminated by oil, salt water and sewage pollution, according to W. L. McAtee of the U. S. Biological Survey. This estimate is based upon an investigation of a wildfowl breeding area 300 miles square in Back Bay, Virginia, and Upper Currituck Sound, North Carolina, that is being despoiled by salt water reaching the fresh water through the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal.

"There are not now 100 wild geese or swans where there were 1,000, not one duck where there were 10,000 during the time when the food supply for the birds in this region was at its best," Mr. McAtee said.

This condition has national application. Many of the finest fresh water areas are being polluted by the dumping of oil, sewage, and trash from factories into fresh water streams, rivers, ponds and lakes throughout the country.

### HE KNOWS

"Hadn't you better go and tell your father?" said the motorist to the farmer's boy, who stood looking at the load of hay upset in the lane by a collision.

"He knows," replied the boy.

"Knows? How can he know?"

"He's under the bay."

Chwatznski: Hello, my friend, how's your good wife this morning?

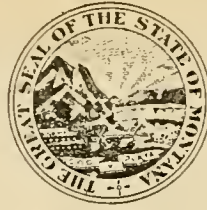
Andrzejewski: Quit your kidding. You know that I have only one wife.

## "Me An' My Six Shooter Killed Mr. Bear"



**H**ERE'S a youthful Montana sportsman from the Livingston region, topped with a 10-gallon hat, dolled up in spurs and chaps, and toting a six-gun as long as his arm. Dad killed the Bruin but Sonny claims a lot of the credit. He's another son of a Montana Dad who is being taught lessons of Nature by being made a pal of his dad.

## 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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## MONTANA WILD LIFE

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VOLUME III

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NO. 4

## LEADERS FOR \$3 LICENSE FEE

**F**ORESIGHTED sportsmen of Montana are not hesitant in expressing themselves in behalf of the proposed \$3 resident hunting and fishing license endorsed by the Montana Sportsmen's Association as one of the best means toward providing the State Fish and Game Commission with adequate funds to proceed with the program of conservation now under way. The drought has lowered the fish supply. The flight of ducks has been almost eliminated because of drying of the pot holes and lakes. Much constructive work is demanded in the building of rearing ponds, greater hatchery facilities, increased areas of the game farm and scores of other measures. The Commission is foresighted in buying up areas for future use as public hunting grounds, in constructing dams to preserve the water and save the ducks.

Wild life refuges and sanctuaries, properly administered under scientific control of environment and game management, will do more toward restoring wild life to its former abundance in the entire country than all the laws enacted or that can be enacted, according to sportsmen, scientists and educators throughout the country. Game can not be "lawed" back. It has to be raised under right conditions.

"America, through thoughtlessness in some cases and greed in others, has been striking at the sources of wild life," Carlos Avery, president of the American Game Protective Association, points out. "The settlement of many broad areas has caused the needless drainage and destruction of lakes, swamps and streams; forests, too, have fallen needlessly to the axe in the hands of the unthinking and greedy. These places were breeding grounds, havens, nesting and feeding grounds of wild folk.

"The axe and forest fire, the pick and ditching shovel, have destroyed more wild life than any two other causes combined," Mr. Avery continued.

"As an example, a large lake in the west was drained and the land sold to unsuspecting farmers in the south and east as 'fine fruit farms.' These thousands of acres had been a stopping place for west coast ducks in their migratory flights south. The lake had returned \$22.50 an acre the year to the community, paid from the pockets of duck hunters for room and board, ammunition, guide hire and other essentials of duck hunting that could be procured only in the vicinity of the lake. The 'farms' failed and were abandoned, and now the good citizens of that community are trying to get the United States government to restore the lake in order to bring back the duck hunting revenue. They were the victims of drainage project ex-

ploitation. The real estate promoters have moved on, perhaps laughing to themselves.

"If wild life is to be restored we must restore also adequate breeding, feeding and nesting grounds and protect the wild life therein, or else create new refuges and sanctuaries. These will do more toward bringing back wild life than all the laws that can be written. Can any one law the Dodo back?" Mr. Avery concluded.

If the female of the specie were held sacred, all wild life would increase rapidly, affording sport and recreation for all.

## HUNCH HUNTING CAUSES HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE

**T**AKE the hunch out of hunting and the guess out of gunning by never shooting at movement or sound," Carlos Avery, president of the American Game Protective Association, says in urging hunters to cooperate with state game officials and conservation groups who have recently inaugurated educational campaigns to stop the needless killing and wounding of many persons every year. Wind-blown tree limbs or bushes and movements of fellow hunters or livestock nearby often cause optical illusions for the unwary. With the 1930 hunting season open, every hunter can do his part to stop the loss of human life. The careful hunter always holds the muzzle of a loaded gun down or in such an upright position over his shoulder when walking that his comrades will not be hit if the gun goes off accidentally. Many old-timers always unload during rest periods and before they get into camp at night. Never aim at any one—you never can tell what might happen! When hunting, always be sure that you see the game.

The silver lining theory has kept many a man under a cloud.

## SCIENCE TYING BELLS ON GAME

**I**F ONE hears tinkling bells in the wildwood in the near future it will be no cause for alarm or the questioning of one's senses, for science is now putting bells on different species of wild life to learn their range and life habits, it was revealed at the convention of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners at Toronto.

Dr. Gardiner Bump of the conservation department of New York state said that he will put bells of different tones on ruffed grouse in the hope of tracing them by sound and learning the extent of their range habit and other necessary details of the life history of this species. Dr. Bump is conducting an experiment with raising this shy bird under natural conditions.

He said that indications thus far point to creating the proper types of environment ranging from hushy land to virgin timber. A number of college boys and others are assisting him in the experiment which, he said, he hopes to extend to many different areas in New York state in the immediate future. Science and conservationists declare that Dr. Bump's experiments will undoubtedly contribute much toward restoring this diminishing specie.

"Tone-conscious" assistants who can distinguish variations in tone as most people can in colors, will patrol the experimental areas and collect data by ear, so to speak. Each belled bird will make a different toned tinkle whenever it moves, thus giving away secrets so necessary to creating ideal conditions under which the species can restore itself to former abundance.



## SPORTSMANSHIP

**A** MID-WESTERN newspaper carried this item a few days ago: "Three hunters from St. Louis were driving out one of the streets of Troy. A squirrel ran across the street into Judge Woolfolk's yard. The three hunters got into action at once and after one volley the squirrel fell to the ground and one of the hunters went into the yard to retrieve the game. He was met by the judge with this question: 'Why don't you go hunting in the zoo—it's closer to you and the game's bigger?' and then for good measure and to relieve his feelings the judge added a few more remarks."

These gunners had not only violated four state laws, shooting on the highway, in the city limits, on Sunday, and trespassing, but they had violated the first principles of sportsmanship.

No sportsman will commit an act that he knows will be offensive to others in his presence. Every gunner considers himself a sportsman. He will be quick to resent any implication to the contrary, but not always are his acts such as to entitle him to the term.

Farmers can not be blamed for being offended at the acts of gunners who run over their land without permission, cut wire fences, leave gates open, frighten their stock, and sometimes commit much worse acts of vandalism.

The term "sportsman" should be synonymous with "gentleman." Whatever a gentleman should do and he will always be found to coincide with the ethics of good sportsmanship.

Winners don't quit; quitters don't win.—Forbes Weekly.

## LEAVE WINTER FEED NOW

**B**ETTER pheasant hunting and better feeding conditions for the birds next winter will result if patches or strips of weeds, brush, clover, alfalfa or grain are left uncut, especially along fences and at swamp borders. Pheasants are attracted by the grain and corn fields, and hunters on lands where such feed patches occur will have less reason to complain that the birds have moved off to the feed patches and cover on neighboring farms.

Grain left uncut at harvest time greatly simplifies the winter feeding and practically guarantees that the birds will not starve. Several farmers have reported that they have been well repaid for leaving patches for the birds.

The part of an automobile that gives the most trouble is the nut at the wheel.

## TEACH THE LAD OF NATURE'S GIFTS

**N**EW YORK CITY is having a big laugh at its own expense—and trying at the same time to remedy the cause. It's a situation that gives Montana folks food for thought. "Stars" mean movie actors to its children. A rose is a "tulip." The "Milky Way" is found in candy shops.

Urban schools are so lacking in facilities for training their children in the ways of nature that about half of 1200 pupils who were examined in nature study gave the name of "any star" as John Gilbert, Mary Pickford or Janet Gaynor, according to Van Evrie Kilpatrick, director of nature garden work in the New York City schools.

"Can children be educated, not knowing the grass in the field, or the birds in the treetops, or the fish in the running brooks?" Mr. Kilpatrick said. "This denuding the city child of the major part of his nature heritage has led to a woeful ignorance on his part of the simplest commonplaces of the natural world.

"A twelve-year-old boy called a rose he was wearing 'a tulip.' Twenty-one pupils out of a sixth year class of thirty-three pupils reported that the 'Milky Way' was found in candy shops. About fifty per cent of 1200 children examined in nature gave the name of 'any star' as John Gilbert or Mary Pickford or Janet Gaynor. Less than three per cent of the same group of children could tell what was the most intelligent animal."

Mr. Kilpatrick, lamenting the disadvantage the city child labors under in regard to nature, is directing the work of 244 gardens conducted by as many schools, and is constantly adding more gardens to care for the needs of more children.

"The school garden trains children in the most basic of the industrial arts—agriculture—which brings him into a further knowledge of the social and industrial world," Mr. Kilpatrick declared.

## REST DAYS FOR DUCKS

**W**EDNESDAY is a rest day for ducks in Wisconsin all during the open season. The birds may enjoy at least one day a week when they are free from bombardment. In most of Canada Sunday is a rest day for all game. Some clubs establish several rest days a week on their grounds. Some sportsmen advocate a rest period each day in addition to prohibition of night shooting. More rest periods mean more feeding time.

The best conservation laws are engraved on the heart, not in statute books.

## DON'TS FOR HUNTERS

**T**HE Wisconsin Conservation Commission is one state body to issue an official warning to gunners. The following "Don'ts" should reduce shooting accidents:

DON'T keep your gun loaded except when you are actually hunting but handle it at all times as if it were loaded.

DON'T point your gun at any one even if you are sure it is empty.

DON'T handle a gun by the muzzle or pull it toward you. DON'T carry your gun when climbing fences or brush piles.

DON'T carry your gun so that an accidental discharge might shoot your companion.

DON'T shoot at any game unless you can see it clearly enough to positively identify it.

DON'T be the fool who "didn't know it was loaded."

The lifter finally lifts himself.

## TO KEEP PHEASANTS FROM BERRIES

**W**HEN pheasants eat berries, tomatoes and melons, there is something to be done about it besides shooting the birds. The process of shooting, besides being illegal, is highly discomfoting to the birds. T. G. Hodgkins, president of the Federation of Improvement Clubs of southern Alameda county, recently wrote to the California state division of fish and game, complaining that berries and tomatoes in his community were being picked by the birds. John L. Farley, executive officer of the division, replied that "it has been found that a few vessels of water in a melon or tomato field, particularly in the section through which pheasants make their approach, will stop the trouble. The pheasants pick at these crops to secure water, and not because of their taste for the fruit or vegetables."

The secret of success lies in embracing every opportunity.

## DROUGHT DRIVES NATURE INTO BARNYARDS

**D**ROUGHT is forcing nature into the barnyards of man. Wild ducks nested on a slough near Regina, Sask., Canada, but the slough dried up soon after the hatch. One mother duck with her fluffy brood made a trek of a mile to a farmyard pump. The babies couldn't reach the water in the trough, so the mother duck, according to the Regina Leader, immersed herself, jumped out, and the baby ducks were seen sipping water from her feathers. The sympathetic farmer's wife filled a large pan and put it in the barnyard. The little ducks couldn't scramble in, so the mother duck managed to dump her brood into the drink. The ducks remained near the water supply, showing little fear of the woman. Deer and other animals are coming into watering troughs in Montana barnyards at night. Tracks are reported in many localities.

"All men are equal before fishes."—Herbert Hoover.

## IDAHO SETS ASIDE 3,379,700 ACRES

**I**DAHO has set aside 3,379,700 acres by legislative action for protection and propagation of wild game. The game preserves are scattered in all sections of the state, setting aside winter and summer feeding range for game. In addition to the principal areas, a number of preserves have been created by proclamations of the warden to take care of emergency situations, these including the recently closed section of Shoshone county and the section in central Idaho closed last year as a reserve for deer forced to flee because of fires. Fish culturing activities have been increased in the last seven years, the report said, to where now 15,000,000 trout may be hatched and reared for planting in the streams of the state, compared with about 4,000,000 previously.

# URSUS HORRIBILIS Or Bears Is Bears

## BAIRDI

By

WILLIAM M. RUSH



**T**HE grizzly, or silver tip, is as near extinction as any other big game animal in the United States, and is one which most certainly should have more consideration in our wilderness areas and big game preserves. In communities which were settled by stock raisers it was right that the grizzly should be exterminated, but in our millions of acres of mountain country there is room for more of these interesting animals. For the sportsman that desires a real hunt there is no other animal in the Rocky Mountains which is more skillful in evading the hunter or who can furnish the excitement that a grizzly does.

The mother bear's habit of offensive protection for her young, that is, not waiting to be attacked before defending her little ones, and the furious charges of a wounded grizzly, constitute elements of danger to bear hunting that a true sportsman enjoys. A wounded grizzly is a quite different animal from a wounded elk or deer. Most likely the old fellow will start tearing through the forest looking for the thing that hurt him and more than a few lives have been lost in the west from wounded grizzlies getting to their man.

Some time ago I was commissioned to kill two grizzlies for museum mounts. I went out in the springtime just after the bears had come out of hibernation with a partner who was an experienced hunter and a good shot. My partner had a .35 calibre box magazine Winchester and I had a .256 Newton. The second day out we sighted four grizzlies about a mile away. We rode our horses in a roundabout way to get to the leeward of the bear. As the bear were continually moving it was a nice stalking job after we tied our horses to get within shooting range. Finally, after about an hour's time, we sneaked up on a little lake and saw our quarry taking a bath. There was one old bear and three two-year-olds, about three hundred yards away and no chance for us to get closer. The old bear waded to the shore and looked our way, then the three smaller ones looked, too.

The big one was the one we wanted so as she reared up on her hind legs I fired, the bullet striking her in the

front leg just left of the breast bone. All four bear ran into the shelter of a small patch of trees through which were scattered some large boulders. My partner and I advanced to the small lake and he got a shot at the old bear as she was coming back through the trees to meet us.

His bullet struck her in the mouth but did not reach the brain. She then charged and I shot her through the belly. Within forty feet of my partner she lay down, pretty well weakened by the shots. In a few minutes we walked up to her and I poked her with my gun barrel. She made a determined effort to get on her feet and I shot her in the neck. When we skinned her out we found her lungs, liver, kidneys and intestines shot to pieces, besides one shoulder, head and several other bones shattered.

The three others escaped and as it was large bears that we were after we did not look further for the two-year-olds.

Just at dusk as we were going to camp we sighted four more grizzlies about two miles away chasing a bunch of some eighty or ninety elk. These bears were attempting to run the elk into the river canyon, which, had they been successful, would have resulted in the death of a large part of the herd. However, the elk escaped, thanks to their superior speed, and the bears went out of our sight behind a small butte near the canyon.

We came upon them taking a bath at a small lake with the largest one standing on the bank and the three smaller ones swimming in the water. This bunch proved to be an old female and three two-year-olds, the same as our forenoon bunch. We were within sixty yards of them when we saw them at the lake and we were still on our horses.

Dismounting, we crept to a little ridge and shot the old female. She started



Here they come, straight for the photographer.

to roar and the whole bunch of them started our way as fast as they could come, the old one with one shoulder shot away. We retreated a little to our rear to a large boulder and had not long to wait until they came, the crippled she-bear and one other running along the brink of the canyon. My partner made a deadly shot that rolled the big bear over the brink into the canyon where she tumbled for five hundred feet and then crawled to within two yards of the water's edge before stopping.



No love lost here.

The next morning we climbed down in the canyon to the old bear, which proved to be a battle-scarred veteran—three toes were missing from one foot, evidently from being caught insecurely in a steel trap; her tongue was almost slit in two from an old wound of some sort, and her teeth were worn to the gums, probably from biting on the steel trap. We could not help but admire the courage and grit the old girl had displayed.

Both of these old bears' stomachs were full of elk meat with a small quantity of grass and roots. However, at another time in the same region I skinned four grizzlies and found little else but grass, roots and oats. The oats had been put out for wild geese. Grizzlies are very fond of oats and will break into a strong bin to secure them. At certain times of the year their diet consists largely of grass and roots. In the spring when first coming out of hibernation they have been known to kill fully grown cow elk and buffalo, and of course kill and eat calves to some extent.

It is not easy for a bear to find the elk calves as the calves have no scent

and when hidden in the tall grass or brush the bear must hunt for them by sight, just as a man, with the disadvantage of a very limited range of vision due to their carrying their head so close to the ground.

The bear should not be exterminated because they destroy the young of some of the other animals, no more so than the elk should be killed off because they eat the food of the deer or mountain sheep. All are game animals and should be managed so that all can ex-



He's on the run and knows where he's going.

ist in goodly numbers. Even the predatory animals such as the wolf, coyote and mountain lions, have a definite place in game management and particularly in the large wilderness areas should not be exterminated.

There are at least two species of grizzlies in the Rocky Mountain region of Montana, the plains species—*Ursus horribilis horribilis*—and the mountain species—*Ursus horribilis bairdi*. The plains species is the larger in size but less numerous than the mountain species, due probably to its being forced from its natural habitat of the plains and foothills to the mountains where living conditions are not so favorable to it.

The usual number of cubs to a litter is three but a new litter is born to the same female only once in two or three years, and the mortality is high, so that only a very slow increase is noted in the mountainous areas where trapping and hunting with dogs are not practiced.

Grizzlies are not the easiest animals to study on their natural range, for, while their eyesight is not remarkable, they have good hearing and a wonderfully keen sense of smell, and are very restless—being almost continuously on the move. Furthermore, there is a great amount of individualism in the grizzlies and the actions of one does not always hold good for the next one seen. As with many other members of our wild life family, the things we do not know about the bear number far more than the things we do know.

To watch a big fellow turn over small rocks and lick up the insects he finds underneath, hunting for grub worms in rotten logs, digging roots, searching the sage brush thoroughly for an elk calf or doing some other homely little thing,

a person would hardly think him capable of tackling a full grown cow elk or buffalo to satisfy his hunger.

Long persecuted as a predator, the number of grizzlies grew alarmingly small. With his proper worth in game management recognized and his value as a game animal from a hunting standpoint realized, some protection has been given him and the danger of complete extermination is not now so great. However, there are still some people who would like to kill all the bear in order to have an increased number of elk, deer, sheep, etc., without realizing that a well balanced animal life in a mountainous, unsettled region is essential to the long-time perpetuation of all the species.

#### A COMMERCIAL NOSE

Customer: "My, what smells so?"  
 Hebrew Merchant: "Do you smell it, too?"  
 Customer: "Yes, what is it?"  
 Hebrew Merchant: "Business. It's rotten."

Judge: "What possible excuse did you fellows have for acquitting that murderer?"

Juryman: "Insanity."  
 Judge: "Really? The whole twelve of you?"

Adam: "Wonderful night, a beautiful girl—what a combination!"  
 Eve: "Goodness! Is that showing?"

### Just a Fishin' an' a Thinkin'



**A** FELLER can't think up no deviltry when he's fishin'. This beauty spot is a nook on Rock Creek below the dam on the Deer Lodge National Forest. The picture was taken by Kenneth D. Swan of the Forest Service and depicts an ideal spot in the hills where dull care may be given a terrific drubbing. Look at that water, the cascades, the hills, the peaks—and smell the balsam.

# DUCKITIS



THE OLD FLIVVER GROANS UNDER THE WEIGHT AS IT CRAWLS SLOWLY DOWN THE STREET—



◇ MALLARDS NEAR NINE PIPES RESERVOIR ◇



◇ A VICTIM OF DUCKITIS ◇

By A HUNTER'S WIFE  
Mrs. J. B. Halm, Missoula

I FIRST heard of hunting back in my high school days. The girl I chummed with had two older brothers who made a great ado about hunting every fall in the woods of northern Minnesota; it meant little to me then. It was out in Montana, a few years later, that the true meaning of the word "hunting" was impressed upon my mind. A young man on his knees, says, "Sweetheart, I love you more than anything in the world," but he forgot (purposely, perhaps), to except the one thing that means more than life itself to him—duck hunting. I have learned that since. . . .

This famous duck hunter is most sadly afflicted with duckitis. Never heard of duckitis—that peculiar malady which so baffles the wisest of hunters' wives? It seems that most "bird hunters," sooner or later, are prone to develop symptoms of duckitis. There is no known remedy for this persistent disease—at least, I have never heard of any. It is very contagious; like an agent, it misses not a dwelling; the whole community is visited by duckitis. The worst stage of this uncontrollable malady is in the fall of the year during the "bird season," especially week-ends when every hunter in town has made himself conspicuous by his absence.

"Going AGAIN?"

Yes, for the steenth time since the season began, my husband was going hunting. Every Friday evening, bar none, friend husband packs up his gun, his boots, blankets, grub, shovels, decoys (until you wonder what he intends to do with so many), ammunition to last a month of Sundays; I almost forgot the boat—until the old flivver looks like a beast of burden, groaning under the weight as it crawls slowly down the street, gradually pick-

ing up speed until the moving mountain is out of sight. They are off for two days of duck hunting.

Some time Sunday evening he returns All the paraphernalia that was loaded on to the car Friday evening is now removed and placed in piles all over the back yard. The long strip of canvas (oh, yards and yards of it), is hung over the clothesline to dry; the spoils of the hunt are carried to the back porch by the exhilarant children who are already showing symptoms of duckitis.

After distributing part of the hunting effects to its proper place, my duckitis husband moves wearily toward the kitchen, dragging one heavy foot after

the other. Although famishly hungry, and almost too tired to eat, he manages to swallow a few bites of the waiting dinner. All attempts at conversation are fruitless. Then duty calls: the shotgun, which plays such a very important part in duckitis, must be cleaned. Placing newspapers on the kitchen table, oil and rags, he very carefully removes every particle of grit and soot from the gun, rubbing and polishing until the inside of the barrel shines like a nigger's heel. After that—bed, the wonderful haven of rest for the weary hunter.

When the blizzards begin to rage and the thermometer tries to beat all previous records, there is a lull in duckitis. About the first of the year the disease has noticeably subsided and the fever has almost gone down to normal; then some friend comes in to spend the evening. The excitement and enthusiasm in relating past incidents and plans for the new boat cause a relapse and the fever jumps again to the dangerous stage.

"Boy, when you sat down in the mud just as that greenhead winged past us! I'll never forget it. Ha! ha! You sure were a sight."

". . . . and when the boat hit the snag and Frank was dumped into the river—did you know he didn't recover his gun until the following spring?"

\* \* \* \* \*

About the first of April a different symptom of duckitis makes its appearance in our family. It is not at all common among duck hunters in general, but has taken a very strong hold on my husband. Loaded with his camera, the tripod perched on one shoulder, he tramps around the lake shore and numerous potholes, peering here and there for ducks' nests in the hope of finding some eggs or ducklings to "shoot." These trips have not been in

## The Wild Duck

In the misty gray of an autumn day  
Lay the tule-margined lake,  
Dark, save for mirrored clouds at play.  
No sounds on the dawn-calm break.  
Anon, the flocks, disturbed by man,  
Arise in clamorous flight—  
In panic of escape began,  
In strict formation gaining height.  
The leaden pellets 'round them sing—  
One finds the source of life  
Beneath a swiftly moving wing—  
Ended the flight, the strife:  
Thus to an instant painless end,  
Fitter than rending claw  
Or pains that age and hunger send—  
Yielding to nature's law—  
This voyager that cleaves the blue,  
Def'ing wind and rain and storm,  
Which in those airy realms we view  
Is without peer in grace and form,  
Into that black, oblivious night—  
Betime the certain end of all—  
From glorious, hopeful, beauteous flight,  
Flutters to rest—the wild duck's fall.

vain; he has some mighty interesting pictures of the feathered tribe. Taking pictures of birds in their natural habitat is a most fascinating avocation, and my duckitis patient does not take these trips alone; the whole family accompanies him to the little hunting lodge, the base of his picture studies. Here the children are no more trouble than at home; they have completed a whole network of roads, bridges and tunnels in the sand (not sand, gumbo), a few feet in front of the door. Mother prepares the needs for the physical body. The camera phase of duckitis is very interesting and somewhat offsets the intensity of the disease in the fall of the year.

Another pleasing phase of duckitis is noticed a little later in the spring. After scouting about among his duck hunting friends, my husband was able to procure some wild duck eggs, and proclaimed his intention of raising some ducks in our back yard. When he got the eggs, his work was done; it was I who put them under biddy and kept them moist twice a day. After four long weeks they hatched, all but one which got broken. A lot of time I spent watching and feeding those ducklings. Who wouldn't love those fluffy little creatures with the broad bills? (Was duckitis getting me, too, I wondered.) How they enjoyed splashing around in the little pool in our back yard, while the poor, almost distracted mother hen would plead and scold in an untiring effort to coax them from the water. Such independent little creatures! Later on we accidentally discovered their great fondness for angleworms. After that every member of our family could be seen hoeing and digging in the weedless garden to find angleworms to satisfy the ravenous appetites of those ducklings. When my sister, a stenographer in a big eastern city, came to visit me that summer, she, too, spent much of her time in the garden with a spade, the baby ducks at her feet. Is duckitis catching?

"You'll never know what duck hunting is until you have live decoys." So spoke a hunter friend to my husband. That fall our nine pet mallards went hunting; they, too, had duckitis inflicted upon them. However, it had no bad effects upon them; they are all as great pets as ever.

And now, a year after our first experience with baby ducks, the six hen mallards have nests of their own scattered about the chicken yard. When each one brings off her brood we will feed them until they are old enough to shift for themselves; then my husband intends to put bands on them and release them. We couldn't possibly afford to feed so many ducks just for pets and hunting decoys. And, too, one hears so much these days about conservation and propagation. What would the future of duckitis patients be without any ducks?

Boy: "Dad, I sold my dog for \$10,000."

Dad: "Great guns, you don't mean you got \$10,000 for that worthless hound?"

Boy: "I made a good deal—I got two \$5,000 cats in trade."

## Raising Quail by Electricity

**A**FTER fifteen years of painstaking labor and experiment, W. B. Coleman of Virginia announces success in artificial breeding of bobwhite. "But," says Coleman, "I use no quail mothers and no domestic hens. Every chicken is banned from the game farm." This eliminates poultry diseases.

Everything is done by electricity. The quail eggs are hatched in electric incubators holding 5,000 eggs and the baby quail are brooded in electrically heated brooders elevated three feet above the ground. The average hatch last season was 79 per cent and over 68 per cent of the birds hatched were reared to maturity. Over 4,000 quail were raised.

The quail chicks are kept in elevated runs and are not allowed to step on the ground until fully grown.

A saddle trail is the longest possible distance between two points.

This one is from a corporal who just came back from furlough: "While I was at the depot waiting for my train, a Jew walked up to the ticket window and said: 'What time does the train go to New York?' 'Six forty-nine,' said the ticket agent. 'Make it six thirty and I'll take it,' said the Jewish gentleman."

## Boy Hooks Big 'Uns



**T**WO of the big native trout caught by Bert Campbell, Jr., in the Big Blackfoot, near Lincoln. Bert is only eleven years old, but is becoming an expert with the rod.

## COULDN'T PRODUCE

Wife: "I saw a charming dress today that I could get for a song."

Hubby: "But, my dear, really you can't sing."

A motorist, fixing his tire, Said, "These trees give the shade I require."

Tossed a cigarette stump In a dry poplar clump And started a seven day fire!

## FAIR ENOUGH?

Riding Master: "What's the idea of scratching your neck in class?"

Pupil: "Well, I was the only one that knew it itched."

The pleasantest angling is to see the fish cut with her golden oars the silver stream.—Shakespeare.

## A SHIRT TALE

"Anything besides collars, ties and handkerchiefs, sir? How about some nightshirts?"

"I ain't no society rounder, young feller; when night comes I go to bed."

## ANSWER POSTPONED

"Hello, old man! What do you know?"

"Ask me next month. I've just bought an encyclopedia on easy payments."

## PROOF POSITIVE

Mother (proudly): I wish, my son, that your father would stay home one evening to see how well you behave when he is out.

Sweet Young Thing: Are you in town now for good?

Traveling Salesman: Well, I hate to commit myself.

## SET 'EM UP AGAIN

A little robin flew on high,  
Upon our roof she fluttered,  
And as she laid a tiny egg,  
"This one's on the house," she twittered.

Jones was a druggist, and when his wife ran away with another man he inserted this advertisement in the local paper: "This is to notify the party who so kindly relieved me of my wife that I can supply him with liniments, bandages, arnica, salves, absorbent cotton, iodine, sleeping powders and crutches at bottom prices."

Two farmers met on the road and pulled up.

"Si, I've got a mule with distemper. What'd ye give that one of yours when he had it?"

"Turpentine. Giddap."

A week later they met again.

"Say, Si, I gave my mule turpentine and it killed him."

"Killed mine, too. Giddap."

## WELL KNOWN SLACKER

Willie: "Pa, what's a parasite?"

His Pa: "A parasite, son, is a man who walks through a revolving door without doing his share of the pushing."

### Coyote and Badger are Strange Pals

**S**TRANGE animal partnerships often have been noted in Montana, but probably the most remarkable of all, according to naturalists, is that of the badger and coyote, frequently seen trailing together. The advantage of this "friendship" to the coyote is easily recognized, but what benefit the badger can possibly hope to derive isn't clear, because the coyote never has been noted for his generosity along any line. In fact, the badger is used by the coyote as a "tool."

However, these two animals often are seen together and the coyote often uses a badger den in which to raise its young. The badger is noted as a good digger and makes a warm home. Observers declare it is nearly impossible to pull or drown a badger out of his den because of the animal's strength and cunning. Using its body as a dam by expanding itself, a badger can stave off indefinitely attempts to drown it out of its home and likewise makes it difficult to pull it out.

The badger and coyote often go catching gophers together, but invariably the coyote gets the better of the deal. The badger, always a good digger, chases its quarry into the ground, rapidly digging after it. Soon the gopher, seeing it is cornered, leaves its home by an exit, where the coyote always is in wait. The result is that the badger does all the work and the coyote gets the "bacon," and despite frequent clashes, the friendship continues.

Irate Master (to negro servant): "Rastus, I thought I told you to get a domestic turkey. This one has shot in it."

Rastus: "I done got a domestic turkey, sir."

Master: "Well, how did the shot get in it?"

Rastus: "I 'specks they was meant for me, suh."

We'll banish all sorrow, and sing till tomorrow, and angle and angle again.—Plineas Fletcher.

#### INDISPENSABLE

"My friends," said the lecturer as he waxed more and more eloquent, "if we were to turn and look ourselves squarely in the face, what would we find we needed most?"

There was dense silence. Then a small boy piped up, "A rubber neck, mister. Is that right?"

### 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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Box 16 Detroit, Minnesota

### Snagged Stream Helps Fishing

**S**TREAMS can be made more attractive to game fish by building suags out of logs, brush and rocks. By changing or slowing up the current water pockets are formed, it is easier for fish foods to collect or become attached to the obstructions and areas of shade and rest are established, according to the American Game Protective Association.

Restocking experiments carried on in Michigan waters by the late Dr. Jan Metzelaar and his successor, Dr. Carl Hubbs, state fish research specialist, have proved the value of the so-called resnagging system of restoring fish to small flowing bodies of water.

When nature is left to follow her own method of taking away and rebuilding the earth's surface, obstructions are formed. These natural barriers have been removed in many streams throughout the country as a result of driving logs, a desire on the part of land owners to change water courses for landscaping purposes or to make possible the navigation of small craft.

Dr. Metzelaar's survey shows that fishermen using streams where resnagging experiments have taken place generally approve the work. To snag a stream does not mean to dam it up altogether, but to slow up the water course at convenient points.

#### HICKORY SMOKE

When I smell the smoke of burning wood

I feel the urge of the gypsy blood,  
And I catch the tang of primal things—  
Of mem'ries older than me, of springs  
When the savage danced in front of his tent.

Oh, then my vagabond soul gives vent  
To a whoop of war, like a sleeping hound

Who growls as he dreams of raccoon ground.

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High Class Mink \$90.00 pair. Castor-rex and Color-rex Rabbits from Imported Stock \$20.00 and up.

STRONG'S FUR FARM  
Box 411, Livingston, Mont.

### Salmon Swims 1300 Miles

**E**VIDENCE that certain species of fish travel great distances from their breeding areas is shown by a Pacific salmon. After being marked with a metal tag by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries in Alaskan waters, the salmon was caught 1,300 miles away 44 days later in a Siberian stream.

For more than a decade the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries has been carrying on its marking experiments, using metal tags each of which bear a serial number. Fishermen who return these tags to the bureau receive 25 cents to \$1, depending on the specie of fish.

Marking experiments have shown that regardless of how much salmon may indulge the wanderlust they always return to home waters for the spawning season.

Another way of marking is to remove certain fins in such a manner that no confusion with unmarked fish can result.

#### WHAT IS THE FASTEST ANIMAL?

What is the fastest animal in the United States? According to tests made in this country, the antelope is the speediest animal. One registered 62 miles an hour for two and one-half miles. An elk traveled at the rate of 52 miles an hour, while a deer stepped it off at 47 miles. A coyote moved at 45 miles an hour.

"Hello, what's the matter?"  
"I swallowed a dime. Do you see any change in me?"



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**Above Par**

Down where I live the fishin's good,  
I'll tell the world!  
There a little stream runs through the  
wood  
And out through fields, past hills o'  
green,  
The clearest and best I've ever seen.  
The grass is curled  
Along its banks,  
And to the Lord I give my thanks  
For its waters cool and ripples sheen.

Why, fishin's at its best down there!  
Most any day  
You can take your rod and leave your  
care  
At home, and slash the water as you  
please,  
Get tangled in the weeds or trees—  
Fish as you may  
You'll never catch  
Enough to make a good sized batch,  
But just enough to rankle and tease.

Of course we couldn't advertise  
Our pretty stream.  
We couldn't show the weight and size  
Of great big fish and say that here  
They hit most any time of year.  
But it does seem  
That through it all,  
From early spring till latest fall,  
The fishin' is good—and bound to cheer.

Here comes the trout that must be  
caught tickling.—Twelfth Night.

Next morn they rose and set up every  
sail;  
The wind was fair, but blew a mackerel  
gale. —Dryden.

"Is he a consistent man?"  
"I should say so; he dresses up every  
Sunday before he tunes in on the  
church service."

**FOXES**

Pen-Raised Alaskan Blues and Pedigreed Silvers. Order  
Now—Early Delivery more satisfactory. We guarantee,  
in Your hands or Ours, 100% increase under ranching con-  
tract on adult Blues. 6 Bank Ref. for 25 yrs. and Satisfied  
customers. Breeder-Agents wanted—Your real opportuni-  
ty. "One of the World's largest"—Free booklet tells all.  
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**Secrets to Success**

"What is the secret of success?" asked  
the Sphinx.  
"Push," said the Button.  
"Never be lead," said the Pencil.  
"Take pains," said the Window.  
"Always keep cool," said the Ice.  
"Be up-to-date," said the Calendar.  
"Never lose your head," said the  
Match.  
"Make light of your troubles," said  
the Fire.  
"Do a driving business," said the  
Hammer.  
"Don't be merely one of the hands,"  
said the Clock.  
"Aspire to great things," said the Nut-  
meg.  
"Don't try to be too sharp in your  
dealings," said the Knife.  
"Find a good thing and stick to it,"  
said the Stamp.  
"Do the work that suits you," said  
the Chimney.

The sea's our field of harvest,  
Its scaly tribes our grain;  
We'll reap the teeming waters  
As at home they reap the grain.

**IF YOU ARE LOST**

If you find that you are lost, don't  
get excited. Stop where you are and  
if it is cold, gather up a lot of fuel,  
build a fire and take things easy.  
You'll soon find a way out or some one  
will find you. Whatever you do, don't  
start to wander away.

**The Creek**

He made me just a little creek,  
And bade me greater waters seek;  
"Go straight and swift, my child," He  
said,  
"Until you reach the river's bed,  
"Then with that stronger current bend,  
And press on to the sea—the end."  
I might arrive there in a day,  
If I should never stop to play;  
But there are lovely flowers about,  
And so—I wander in and out;  
I laugh and idle in the sun,  
And seldom deeply, swiftly run,  
And do you think that He will frown  
Upon me, when He glances down?  
Or will He modify His miud,  
And smile a little, as I wind,  
Knowing that some few drops of me  
Must surely, some time, find His Sea?

"Did you tell her when you proposed  
that you were unworthy of her? That  
always makes a good impression."  
"I was going to—but she told me  
first."

Judge: "Have you appeared as a wit-  
ness in a suit before?"  
Witness: "Yes, of course."  
Judge: "What suit was it?"  
Witness: "My blue serge."

**Hercules Alaskan Silver Black  
Foxes**

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# Montana Sportsmen's Association

## GERRY IS SECRETARY

**B.** F. GERRY, a prominent and active man of the fields and streams and a director of the Billings Rod and Gun Club, has been engaged as Secretary of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, according to announcement made by Glen A. Smith, chairman of the governing board of the state association.

In speaking of the work of the Montana association, Mr. Smith referred to the many matters of importance to Montana that have been fostered by the association and the State Fish and Game Commission, among which is the outstanding work in securing congressional appropriation of \$150,000 to acquire winter feeding grounds for wild animals in the Yellowstone valley just north of Gardiner, Mont., and the establishment of the warm water fish culture station at Miles City, which is said to be the largest and most successful culture station in the United States. From this station several carloads of fish of the warm water variety are distributed in streams of eastern Montana.

## PLANT DUCK FOOD

**S**PORTSMEN of the Harlowton area have planted duck food. Beginning at Selkirk they selected suitable places down the river, including small lakes and the rearing ponds as far east as Shawmut for the work. The planting was done under the direction of Game Warden Plank. The consignment consisted of 4,000 sago pond plants and 2,000 wapato duck potato, and was received direct from the Terrell aquatic farm at Oshkosh, Wis. If results are obtained here as in other places an important increase in the duck flight in this territory is expected. Among those who assisted in the work were A. A. Martin, Oscar Biegel, Elmer Nissen, Theron Hicks, George Phillippe, Rusty Mathews, Dr. F. R. Harrison, Arthur Lee, Walter Wagner, Frank W. Brunner, E. Elliott, Leo Labrie, George and Fred Hanzlik.

## HUNTER'S ERROR FATAL

**C**HARLES MONTGOMERY, 39, Centennial Valley rancher, was killed when his shotgun discharged as he pulled it through a fence. Montgomery's 12-year-old daughter, Roberta, ran three miles to a ranch house for aid but her father died within a few minutes. Montgomery's ranch is near Monida. He was married. Roberta was the only child. His death marks the first fatality of the hunting season which opened September 16.

## CLUB AT HOT SPRINGS

**H**OT SPRINGS, one of the greatest of the state's recreational centers, has a live rod and gun club. Jim Crowley is president and William Winston is secretary of the group.

## A Pledge From Libby

As a member of the Libby Rod and Gun Club, I pledge myself to be a true sportsman and as such to:

1. Never shoot at any game animal from a road.
2. Discourage the practice of "meat" hunting.
3. Report to rod and gun club or state officials all cases of law violation that come to my knowledge.
4. Be an honest fisherman and give small fish a chance.

## PET DEER GROWS PEEVISH

**J**OE BELL, a rancher who lives on the north side of the Missouri River near Wilder, has a tame deer. It was a great pet when small but now it is more than two years old and is mischievous and the family considers it a nuisance. It is so gentle that it always stands around the children, following them like a dog, but when it is teased or tormented by the small boys it strikes at them with its front feet.

Mr. Bell was afraid it might harm the boys. He decided to give the deer away but neighbors who had gardens would not consider taking it. Finally Jack Kemsing, a farmer living more than 10 miles from the Bells and across the river from them, consented to take the animal. Mr. Bell loaded it in his car and took it to Hemsing's. It stayed there a few days but disappeared. The next time Hemsing went to the Bell ranch he was greeted at the gate by the deer. It had found its way home and had swum the Missouri River.

## BILLINGS FOR \$3 LICENSE

**P**ROPOSED legislation to increase the cost of general fish and game licenses from \$2 to \$3 annually has been recommended by the Billings Rod and Gun Club, at a recent meeting.

R. A. Prater was elected to fill the unexpired term of B. F. Gerry as a director of the club. Mr. Gerry recently was appointed as field secretary of the Montana Sportsmen's Association.

The action of the board of directors in authorizing the construction of a clubhouse was ratified by the club, which also sanctioned the issuance of 104 life memberships which were disposed of to raise funds for the new building.

The clubhouse now is being erected, according to a report submitted before the meeting, and it is hoped that it will be ready for dedication Thanksgiving day.

## PLANT BASS NEAR HELENA

**T**HROUGH the efforts of the Lewis and Clark Rod and Gun Club about 6,000 fingerling black bass secured from the hatchery near Miles City have been planted in Holter Lake, near Helena. State Game Warden Robert H. Hill helped the club to obtain the shipment, which was distributed from a small boat at intervals near the shore. N. D. Hilger assisted in distributing the fish near Hilger's Landing.

The rod and gun club last spring planted about 100,000 loch leven trout in the same lake. These have thrived. The bass and the trout get along well together and when by planting bass as an experiment the bass survived, the larger shipment was secured.

Those who have angled for black bass in lakes of the middle west realize that the fish is one of the gamiest that swims. It is a fighter and is known as the tiger of fresh water. Stocking of the lakes of Montana with bass has been in progress for two years. Up near the border a number of lakes already yield goodly catches as a result of planting two or three years ago.

The wall-eyed pike, also a favorite game fish in the middle western states, has been planted in eastern Montana waters and appears to thrive.

## WATCH FISH SCREENS

**E**XPERIMENTAL fish screens, designed to keep trout from going into irrigation ditches, are receiving considerable attention in western Montana, where several of the wheels are in operation. Money for several of these experiments was appropriated by the State Fish and Game Commission.

## FOR \$3 LICENSE FEE

**M**EMBERS of the Thompson Falls Rod and Gun Club would like to see a higher non-resident fishing license fee. They fish in territory that is handy to the Idaho line, and many sportsmen from the mining district near Wallace and Kellogg come into the territory annually. Addis Ainsworth is president of the club and J. R. Adams is secretary.

## FUR FARM IS LEASED

**H.** D. SIMMONS, owner and manager of the Bitter Root Fur Farm at Corvallis, has leased his fox farm to Oscar C. Paisley of Hamilton for a period of five years. Mr. Paisley will place an experienced fox man in charge of the 60 pairs of foxes with which the farm is stocked. Most of them are silvers.