

S 799.05
VOLUME 3
72 MW
U3/6 Nov.
1930

NUMBER 6

MONTANA

WILD LIFE

SEP 10 1975
STATE DOCUMENTS
NOVEMBER

OLD
BULL ELK
FEEDING
Photo by
WM. RUSH



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
MONTANA STATE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

As I Go On My Way

By Strickland Gillilan

*MY life shall touch a dozen lives before this life is done—
Leave countless marks for good or ill ere sets this evening's sun.
Shall fair or foul its imprint prove, on those my life shall hail,
Shall benison my impress be, or shall a blight prevail?*

*When to the last great reckoning the lives I meet must go,
Shall this wee, fleeting touch of mine have added joy or woe?
Shall He who looks their records o'er—of name and time and place—
Say "Here a blessed influence came," or "Here is evil's trace?"*

*From out each point of contact of my life with other lives
Flows ever that which helps this one who for the summit strives,
The troubled souls encountered—does it sweeten with its touch,
Or does it more embitter those embittered over much?*

*Does love through every handclasp flow in sympathy's caress?
Do those that I have greeted know a newborn hopefulness?
Are tolerance and charity the keynote of my song
As I go plodding onward with earth's eager, anxious throng?*

*My life must touch a million lives in souls way ere I go
From this dear world of struggle to the land I do not know.
So this the wish I always wish, the prayer I ever pray:
Let my life help the other lives it touches by the way.*



MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

VOL. III.

HELENA, MONTANA, NOVEMBER, 1930

NO. 6

For Fish and Game

An Editorial

By Floyd L. Smith

MONTANA has attained a position of enviable esteem in the nation through maintaining its fishing and hunting amid scenes of natural grandeur, through constant planting of game fish, construction of rearing ponds, distribution of game birds, and conscientious conservation of wild life.

Increasing inroads are being made on this heritage. The balance of Nature has been upset. The motor car, airplane, roads through virgin forests, modern fishing lures, high powered rifles and other devices are taking their toll. Hence, if Montana is to retain her position as a sportsmen's paradise the conservation program in which the Fish and Game Commission is now engaged must proceed without interruption.

To accomplish these results additional finances must be provided. An adjustment of the hunting and fishing fee is mandatory. The State Fish and Game Department is financed and maintained solely by license fees, fines collected from law violators, and through proceeds of confiscations. Because of heavy demands made on departmental funds, the balance at the close of October, 1930, is at the lowest point in years. The \$33,924 in the fund, with receipts almost negligible until the sale of fishing licenses is resumed in May, 1931, will not care for the maintenance of hatcheries, the state game farm, pay roll, law enforcement and overhead.

The following figures from the books of the State Treasurer showing the balance in the Fish and Game Fund at the close of each calendar year since 1915 is evidence that can not be contradicted, emphasizing the necessity for increased revenue:

1915	\$ 20,421.77
1916	17,052.09
1917	46,185.01
1918	81,899.13
1919	94,244.02
1920	113,126.36
1921	36,234.26
1922	54,568.22
1923	29,853.77
1924	52,597.37
1925	94,753.89
1926	107,003.58
1927	82,457.44
1928	97,084.93
1929	98,504.22
Oct. 31, 1930	33,924.58

Growth of the demand for fish and game in Montana is reflected in the following official figures of the depart-

ment, showing the constantly increasing sales of licenses to fish and hunt:

	Resident License	Non-resident Fishing
1916	69,466	1,082
1917	72,113	1,012
1918	42,744	741
1919	70,429	252
1920	52,751	1,305
1921	59,348	1,879
1922	50,508	1,620
1923	64,202	2,193
1924	56,113	2,064
1925	73,042	3,369
1926	71,249	3,133
1927	67,083	3,320
1928	75,063	4,335
1929	83,388	4,793
1930

During the last biennium the department has completed its scientific survey of the water of Flathead Lake, built and operated the largest warm water fish pond cultural station in the world at Fort Keogh, operated, maintained and enlarged 14 fish hatcheries, including the nationally known spawn-taking station at Flint Creek on Georgetown Lake, distributed 38,321,884 game fish in 1929 and approximately 40,000,000 in 1930, completed the Lake Francis spawn-taking station near Valier, completed the first state game farm at Warm Springs and made possible the liberation of 6,200 Chinese pheasants in every county of the state, built the Fox Lake and Red Rock Lakes dams to provide nesting areas and refuges for migratory waterfowl, purchased public shooting grounds, completed rearing ponds throughout the state in cooperation with clubs of sportsmen and formulated plans for continuation of the work of conservation.

Montana's \$2.00 resident license fee, lowest among the states where equal advantages are offered, should therefore be increased to a point in keeping with achievements, permitting this program to proceed without the handicap that is now threatened. Sportsmen of the state are facing the facts squarely. The proposed adjustment of the hunting and fishing license fee has been unanimously indorsed by the Montana Sportsmen's Association. They realize that fish and game can not be "lawed" back or "wished" back. It must be propagated and conserved and this mandatory method requires additional income.

Dude Ranchers In Annual Convention

I. H. LAROM of Valley, Wyoming, president of the Dude Ranchers' Association since its inception at Bozeman five years ago, was re-elected chief executive of the organization at the conclusion of the fifth annual meeting at Billings November 17-20. A. H. Croonquist of Red Lodge was re-elected vice-president and Ernest Miller of Bozeman was again chosen secretary-treasurer. T. Joe Cahill is executive secretary.

Directors were re-elected to serve another term. In addition to the officers they are Leonard L. Lambkin of Lincoln for the Flathead district, Paul Van Cleve, Jr., for the Big Timber area, Charles Moore for the Wind River district, Irving P. Corse for the Jackson Hole district, Simon Snyder for the Sunlight Basin (Wyo.) district, J. W. Howelle for the North Fork of the Shoshone district in Wyoming, Frank Horton for the Buffalo (Wyo.) district, Charles Murphy for the Gardiner district, and Allan R. (Big Bones) Alderson for the Sheridan (Wyo.) district. Mr. Miller is director for the Gallatin-Madison district, Mr. Larom for the South Fork of the Shoshone district in Wyoming, and Mr. Croonquist for the Beartooth Mountain district.

Among those elected to honorary membership in the association were J. M. Schwoob of Cody, Wyo.; Frank Cone of Sheridan, Wyo.; L. L. Perrin of St. Paul, advertising manager for the Northern Pacific; Bruce Nowlin, Wyoming's state game warden; John Mulken of Ringling, and Robert H. Hill, Montana's state fish and game warden.

The committee on fish and game as selected at the annual meeting includes Messrs. Moore, Snyder and Howelle for Wyoming, and Messrs. Miller, Croonquist and Lambkin for Montana.

Send In Pictures

MONTANA sportsmen as well as readers of MONTANA WILD LIFE generally throughout the west are urged to submit unusual photographs of fish and game to the official publication of the State Fish and Game Department. Some other lover of the great out of doors will be interested. Some careless hunter may be converted through a study of a significant picture. Additions to the growing ranks of conservationists in Montana may be made by means of picture education. Address photographs and communications explaining them to The Editor, MONTANA WILD LIFE, Helena, Mont.

The legislative committee includes Messrs. Moore, VanCleve, Horton and Arnold.

Members of the insurance and publicity committee are Messrs. Horton, VanCleve and Moore.

Attendance at the Billings convention further emphasized the fact that the dude ranch industry is becoming one of the leaders in Montana. Throughout the convention outstanding leaders who reflect the sentiment of the dude ranch operators stressed the need for cooperation with the State Fish and Game Department in its program of conservation of wild life. Operators realize the fact that wild life is their stock in trade, the magnet which attracts the annual bevy of eastern tourists to the playgrounds of Montana.

During the three-day convention addresses were made by railroad and forestry leaders, by men who have won distinction because of their ability to care for Montana visitors during the summer months and by commercial captains interested in the success of the

dude ranch industry. Problems relating to the preservation of wild life were discussed, moving pictures showing operations at the Montana state game farm, as well as of fish and game in their native habitat, were displayed, and lectures delivered intended to elevate the dude ranch industry to its proper level.

Resolutions were passed condemning activities of fake promoters selling stock in the east in alleged summer resorts in western mountains.

Among those who made addresses were Glen A. Smith of Missoula, assistant forester; Guy Edwards, acting superintendent of Yellowstone Park; John H. Hutton of Denver, assistant district forester of that division; J. M. Schwoob, merchant of Cody, Wyo.; B. F. Gerry, secretary of the Montana Sportsmen's Association; Jack Stevens of Chicago, former booking agent of the Rising Sun Ranch near Bozeman; Charles Belden of Pitchfork, Wyo.; Charles Murphy of the Ox Yoke Ranch near Emigrant; A. H. Croonquist of the Camp Senia Ranch in the Beartooth range; T. Joe Cahill, executive secretary; Max M. Goodwill, general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific; L. L. Perrin, advertising manager of the N. P.; H. F. McLaury, advertising manager of the Burlington; C. H. Draper, publisher of the Red Lodge Picket-Journal; E. R. Crane of Radio Station KGIR at Butte; George Shea, manager of the Northern hotel at Billings and director of the National Hotel Association; Warren W. Moses of the state publicity department and others of equal prominence.

According to statistics compiled by Secretary T. J. Cahill, returns from 29 dude ranches in Montana and 22 in Wyoming, submitted in response to a questionnaire, show that the total value

Montana Elk Are Wintering Well With End of Open Season Nearing



HERE'S a splendid picture of a portion of the northern herd of elk from Yellowstone Park which annually drifts down into the Gallatin country. They are shown browsing among the bushes, taking a nip here and there and pawing beneath the crust for forage. It's a sight for the sore eyes of unfortunate sportsmen who failed to bring home anything but their outfit during the season which closes December 20. The picture is by W. M. Rush.

of the 51 ranch outfits is \$6,225,800. Returns for 1929 are listed at \$1,167,350. A total of 746,525 acres is included in the ranches listed. Reports were not received from 100 additional ranches whose owners are members of the association. Expenditures of guests of Montana and Wyoming during their summer sojourns have been placed at

Tree 839 Years Old Shows Fire Peril

A DOUGLAS fir tree that was 402 years old when Columbus discovered America in 1492 did not tell its great secret until recently when, cut down in its 839th year, it lay upon its death bed, preparing to give up its ghost into 44,000 feet of lumber. And then its story was not of the Christian crusades upon Jerusalem, when the tree was a mere stripling a decade old. Nor was it of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. Nor the landing of the Pilgrims. Nor Cornwallis' surrender to Washington. Nor Napoleon's Waterloo. Nor the first sawmill, nor the first Atlantic cable.

Its great story of the past, told more vividly than mere words could express, lay in the growth rings of the tree. In this living vault were charcoal records proving that the fir survived 12 different forest fires during the first 400 years of its life.

After being felled for the sawmill at Veronica, Ore., the tree, ten feet in diameter at the base and stretching 230 feet in length, was carefully studied by an expert. According to his findings, the tree definitely established the fact that fires were a menace to forests long before white men settled in this country.

Since the consistent fire hazard then must have been lightning, the officials estimated from statistics that a tree today is in exactly 99 times more danger from fire than it would have been then.

thousands of dollars. Among those registered at the convention were:

C. J. Rowhitz, Omaha; Fred Holdings, Washakie Ranch, Thermopolis, Wyo.; Bert Luglan, Chicago; William V. Johnson and Jessamine Johnson, Rosebud Ranch, Kirby; Elsa Spear Edwards, Sheridan, Wyo.; Mr. and Mrs. Ned Frost, Cody, Wyo.; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Richard, Cody; George Ogden, Clark, Wyo.; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Richel, Richel Lodge; William T. Crnse, Billings; G. H. Downs, Billings; J. Langworthy, Edith Langworthy and Alan Langworthy, Cody; Mr. and Mrs. Simon Snyder, Cody; Max Wilde, Cody; J. M. Schwoob, Cody; M. G. Jones, Cody; A. H. Brannin, Brannin Ranch; L. L. Newton, Lander, Wyo.; John I. Bardick, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Darwin Harbicht and Mrs. Hazel Harbicht, Ingotmar; Mr. and Mrs. John Branger and Mr. and Mrs. Dave N. Branger, Tee-O-Bar Ranch, Roscoe; Mary Jester Allen, Cody; Frank Cone, Sheridan; Warren W. Moses, Helena; L. W. Rankin, Luther; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Miller, Elkhorn Ranch, Bozeman; Mrs. C. B. Taber, Forsyth; M. F. Trask, Ballantine.

Ralph and Frances Allan of Allan Ranch, Augusta; J. E. and Claire Bower, Seven-Up Ranch, Lincoln; L. J. Lambkin, Camp Lincoln; B. B. Brewster, Quarter Circle U Ranch, Birney; Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Johnson, Samp Sawtooth; Mr. and Mrs. H. F. McLaury, Chicago; L. L. Perrin, St. Paul; Guy D. Edwards, assistant superintendent, Yellowstone Park; Grace Brewster, Birney; E. J. Ikerman, Beartooth Ranch; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Croonquist, Camp Senia, Red Lodge; Paul Van Cleve, Jr., Big Timber; Johnnie Mullen, Livingston; J. H. Hazzard, Billings.

Dorothy and "Big Bones" Alderson, Bones Brothers Ranch, Birney; R. C. Murphy, Billings; Al Volberding, Livingston; Sol Frank, Livingston; C. T. Thompson, Billings; Charles Murphy, Ox Yoke Ranch, Livingston; Ed Miller, Hunter's Hot Springs; Max M. Goodwill, St. Paul; Charles J. Oviatt, Sheridan; Jack Stevens, Billings; Robert Johnston, Billings; Charles W. McBride, Billings; D. C. Cowles, Living-

ston; Max Big Man, Crow Agency; L. W. Johnston, Billings; John H. Hatton, Denver; Paul J. Fair, Missoula, representing the Montana Fish and Game Commission; W. M. Rush, Yellowstone Park; George Baggley, Yellowstone Park; Glen A. Smith, Missoula; L. F. Mills, Sheridan, and J. W. Howelle, Cody.

New Jersey Buys Western Rabbits

PEDESTRIANS are divided into two classes—the quick and the dead. And poor Bre'r Rabbit seems to be in the slow motion class when he becomes a pedestrian on the highways. He is faring much worse than the human pedestrian. One or more of his tribe is killed to every mile of highway in the United States, according to the American Game Protective Association.

To meet the motor traffic kill in New Jersey thus far this season the fish and game commission of that state has placed an order for the importation of 5,000 additional western cottontail rabbits next year. The order will bring New Jersey's import of rabbits to 20,000 for next year.

The enormous toll taken of Bre'r Rabbit and other wild folk is charged to the raising of the speed limit for cars, carelessness of motorists, and deliberate destruction of the helpless creatures by cruel drivers. Most of the animals and birds are killed at night, blinded by headlights. And the pity of it is that most of these wild folk could be saved by the exercise of thoughtfulness and care on the part of the automobile driver. The majority of the animals and birds become frightened and squat in the middle of the road. In many cases the motorist could avoid striking them, and certainly those who deliberately run them down with malice aforethought should refrain from doing so through good sportsmanship.

Monarchs of Montana Forests Bunch Up With Approach of Winter



WHEN the rigors of winter strike Montana elk, they are forced to fight the elements, paw through crusted and drifted snow for forage or wander away from their summer habitat in search of feed. This bunch of plump elk, a part of the northern herd in Montana for which adequate grazing lands are now being purchased, is shown on the pasture slope after a full meal, awaiting the migration that precedes the next dinner. The picture is by W. M. Rush.

Hunting Licenses and Bounty Fees

PREDATORY animal hunters in the employ of the State Fish and Game Department, the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey and the Livestock Commission are in the midst of another annual drive to rid the forests and ranges of coyotes, mountain lions, wolves and other animals and birds of prey. Under the leadership of R. E. Bateman, whose headquarters are at Billings, the work is proceeding apace and stockmen and sportsmen alike are deriving the benefits.

Montana's Fish and Game Commission, in cooperation with the Livestock Commission, has aided in making possible the payment of \$9,148 in bounties alone during 1929. The total number of coyotes on which bounties of \$2 each were paid reached 4,241 pups and 303 adults taken during the months of April, May and June in the whelping season. Three mountain lions killed in Missoula county during 1929 were presented for collection of the bounty of \$20 each. No wolves, on which there is a \$15 bounty, were reported. These animals were trapped or killed by residents and are not considered in the report of the predatory animal hunters employed in the drive.

Statistics which follow, showing the total number of hunting and fishing licenses issued during 1929, as matched against the total amount of bounty paid in each county, reveal interesting facts. In Carter county 21 hunting and fishing licenses were issued at \$2 each yet 234 coyotes netted residents of the county \$468. Eleven licenses were issued in Fallon county at \$2 each yet 97 coyotes brought residents \$194 in bounty. Garfield county residents purchased 17 licenses and collected \$64 bounty on 32 coyotes. McCone county residents bought four licenses and collected \$226 bounty on 113 coyotes.

Silver Bow county leads the list of 1929 license purchasers with a total of 9,818; Cascade is second with 6,714; Missoula county is third with 5,224; Lewis and Clark county is next with 4,471, and Gallatin next with 4,375. The smallest number of licenses was issued in McCone county, where, according to returns made to the Fish and Game Department, only four resident permits were issued.

License dealers in adjoining states reported a heavy sale of licenses in 1929, Idaho dealers handling 908, Utah selling 15 and Washington 151.

License sales for 1929 reached the high mark in the history of the operation of the department, a total of \$3,388 resident permits being issued while 4,793 non-resident fishing licenses were sold. These facts but serve to impress upon minds of thoughtful sportsmen the constantly increasing demands being

made upon Montana's forests, fields and streams and the necessity for keeping them adequately stocked in order that the great natural heritage may be preserved for future generations.

Twenty-five cents out of every license fee collected goes into the biological fund, from which predatory animal hunters are paid and from which the bounties are taken. At the close of business on October 31, 1930, official figures show that nearly as much remained in the biological fund as in the fish and game fund. The biological fund balance on October 31 was \$24,924.61, after disbursing \$1,099.25 during the month, while the fish and game

fund balance was but \$33,924.58, after deducting disbursements for the month of \$31,724.32. With receipts during the months almost negligible until the resumption of the sale of hunting and fishing licenses in May, 1931, this fish and game fund balance, without additional revenue provided by the proposed increase in hunting and fishing license fees, will not meet necessary expenditures for the maintenance of hatcheries, the game farm, law enforcement, pay roll and overhead.

The accompanying table showing the sale of licenses by counties during 1929, as compared with the bounty paid on coyotes, provides food for thought.

Licenses by Counties for 1929 and Bounty Paid

County	Resident	Non-Resident Fishing	Non-Resident Limited	Non-Resident General	Alien Fishing	Alien General	Coyotes	Total Bounty
Beaverhead	2,343	178	4	2	3		520	\$1,040.00
Big Horn	696	15					12	24.00
Blaine	702						245	490.00
Broadwater	706	8					8	16.00
Carbon	2,084	72			30		54	108.00
Carter	21						234	468.00
Cascade	6,714	70	2	2	25		106	212.00
Chouteau	920	5			1		55	110.00
Custer	575	2					13	26.00
Daniels	221						44	88.00
Dawson	624	5					116	232.00
Deer Lodge	3,148	72	3	2	12		97	194.00
Fallon	11						810	1,620.00
Fergus	2,408	38	1	2			32	64.00
Flathead	5,750	203	1	3	12		7	14.00
Gallatin	4,375	1,047	15	18	26		7	14.00
Garfield	17						32	64.00
Glacier	596	50			3		7	14.00
Golden Valley	104	5					7	14.00
Granite	777	35					462	924.00
Hill	1,756	6	2				31	62.00
Jefferson	676	13					5	10.00
Judith Basin	1,101	12					72	144.00
Lake	2,038	182		3			68	136.00
Lewis and Clark	4,471	145	11	29	32		11	22.00
Liberty	126	4					3	6.00
Lincoln	2,128	223		9	5		1	2.00
McCone	4						68	136.00
Madison	1,573	267	2	6			11	22.00
Meagher	678	21					3	6.00
Mineral	665	162	1				1	2.00
Missoula	5,224	18	6	6	16	1	42	84.00
Musselshell	714	1					21	42.00
Park	2,225	129		2	21	1	64	128.00
Petroleum	85						354	708.00
Phillips	586	1					39	78.00
Pondera	1,020	10					113	226.00
Powder River	10						4	8.00
Powell	1,033	18			2		37	74.00
Prairie	67						73	146.00
Ravalli	1,950	68		2			271	542.00
Richland	359						1	2.00
Roosevelt	603						91	182.00
Rosebud	282	2					16	32.00
Sanders	1,603	210	5	5	3		10	20.00
Sheridan	886	2	16				89	178.00
Silver Bow	9,818	135	10	2	3	1	97	194.00
Stillwater	1,031	80		6			39	78.00
Sweet Grass	747	58					66	132.00
Teton	886	14		2			6	12.00
Toole	878	4					59	118.00
Treasure	59						60	120.00
Valley	470						70	140.00
Wheatland	787	12					15	30.00
Wibaux	75	10					8	16.00
Yellowstone	3,992	107	5	4	6			
Idaho		908	18	4				
Utah		15						
Washington		151						
	83,388	4,793	102	107	290	3	4,544	\$9,148.00

*Three mountain lions.

How Tom Turkey Got His Beard

WITH the approach of Thanksgiving thoughts of the wild turkey, that stately emblematic bird, arise and recall a charming Indian legend of how the noble bird got its beard. Old Chief Galagina, the Gobbling One, according to the Indian legend, met the victorious tortoise returning from his famous race with the rabbit. The tortoise was wearing his trophy of victory, a scalp, about his short neck, and the scalp was dragging in the dust.

Old Chief Galagina, after expressing his doubt to the tortoise as to his winning the race, began to comment upon how awkwardly the tortoise wore the trophy.

After making the humble tortoise miserable, the turkey offered to show him how to wear the scalp gracefully. After much persuasion, the tortoise reluctantly handed the scalp to Old Chief Galagina. He placed it around his neck and the hair hung gracefully from his breast.

Old Chief Galagina strutted off a few feet to let the tortoise get a better view from various angles—and then ran. And the tortoise has never caught up to recover his trophy won in the rabbit race. Old Chief Galagina is still wearing it on his breast.

Old Chief Galagina, however, is said to be nearing the end of his race. He formerly ranged over most of America but today he is found only in spots in the south and southwest. Conservationists are trying valiantly to bring him back and increase his tribe.

Destruction of much of the wooded area of his former range has forced old Chief Galagina into restricted areas. Conservationists, foresters and sportsmen are trying to restore forests on many areas and otherwise create ideal conditions for Old Chief Galagina to strut his pilloined trophy in. His tribe is increasing in several areas where environmental control has been practiced.

A REPORTER'S PSALM

The editor is my shepherd; I shall not want. He calleth me forth at ungodly hours and sendeth me on tough assignments. He restoreth my courage with a bleak smile and a slight nod, then maketh me write copy for his own sake. He maketh me tramp the hot, hard streets; he soureth my soul. Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no gunman or gangster. His pencil and power protecteth me. He uses me as a buffer in the presence of his enemies, but occasionally buys me a meal when my money runneth short. Surely poverty and privation shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the poor forever.

Guide: "Say, are you a pretty good judge of horse flesh?"

Dude: "Can't say that I am—don't believe I ever ate any."

St. Ignatius Lad Master Angler



HERE'S the manner in which every Montana dad should bring up his lad. Teach them to enjoy the thrills of the out-of-doors. Take 'em with you on hunting and fishing trips. This snapshot of Walter B. Fellows, little more than four years old, shows him with his first string of sunfish and perch caught at Nine Pipe Reservoir, under the supervision of his dad, W. F. Fellows, assistant cashier of the Mission State Bank at St. Ignatius. The Daily Missoulian of Missoula says of the catch:

"While 100 or more fishermen lined the shores of the Nine Pipe Reservoir, 10 miles from St. Ignatius, and had little or no luck getting fish to take a hold of their hooks, Walter B. Fellows, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fellows of the Mission, pulled 38 sunfish and one bullhead to shore. Young Walter didn't find it necessary to spend a day at his task. Instead he made his fine catch in exactly one hour and fifteen minutes, a record that any old-timer would boast of.

"Although Walter was accompanied on the fishing trip by his father, Walter Fellows, of the Mission State Bank, and Professor W. E. Maddock of the Education Department at the State University, he only called for their assistance when he wanted to take a fish off the hook and put in his basket. Walter did all the casting himself and also pulled every fish to shore."

The one who got stung: "I'm pretty sore. That horse you sold me dropped over dead."

Horse Trader: "I can't help it. He sure never did that while I had him."

Mont Blanc provides Switzerland with an income of at least \$10,000,000 a year derived from tourists. A Scotchman who wanted to see Mount Blanc for nothing, applied for a mountain pass.

Regional Supervisors Direct Pest-Control

FIELD workers of the United States Biological Survey engaged in cooperative campaigns for the control of injurious rodents and predatory animals will be grouped, effective January 1, 1931, in four regions, Paul G. Redington, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has announced. The Secretary of Agriculture has approved this regional plan of organization. The grouping, with each region in charge of a supervisor, will coordinate more closely the work of the bureau throughout the country. Each supervisor will be in contact with the state leaders in his region, and also with the administrative heads of the bureau in Washington.

The new regional supervisors are men who have had wide experience in the wild animal control work of the bureau. James Silver, with headquarters at Washington, D. C., will supervise Region No. 1, comprising all states east of the Mississippi River, including all of Louisiana. Mr. Silver is leader of the bureau's eastern rodent control district, which occupies approximately the same area as the new region.

Region No. 2 will be supervised by Leo L. Laythe, with headquarters at Denver, and will cover Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Colorado and Utah. Mr. Laythe is at present state leader of predatory animal and rodent control for the Biological Survey in Colorado.

Region No. 3, with headquarters at Portland, will include Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and California. Ira N. Gabrielson, at present state leader of rodent control for the Biological Survey in Oregon, is the new supervisor.

Don A. Gilchrist, leader of predatory animal and rodent control for Arizona, will be in charge of Region No. 4, comprising Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas, with headquarters at Phoenix, Ariz.

The new regional supervisors will each spend some time in Washington before the first of the year to acquaint themselves with the policies of the bureau that will be effective when the change is made.

A THOROUGHbred

One day, years ago, when Theodore Roosevelt was a boy, his father said to him, "Theodore, do you know what a thoroughbred is? Well, I'll show you. See those two dogs? Well, this one—" and he picked up an ugly-looking lowbred pup and gave him a gentle shaking, causing yelps and barks and howls to rend the air—"this is not a thoroughbred."

Then he picked up a fine-looking, handsome young dog and shook him hard, not a sound coming forth. "There," said the father, "that's your thoroughbred. Be a thoroughbred, my boy, and, whatever happens, don't squeal."

"Don't let me hear any bad reports about you."

"I'll try not to, Dad, but you know these things will leak out."

Montana Fish and

G. T. BOYD, Great Falls..Commissioner
 JOS. L. KELLY, Anaconda..Commissioner



Game Commission

W. K. MOORE, Billings...Commissioner
 E. A. WILSON, Livingston..Commissioner

THOMAS N. MARLOWE, Missoula, *Chairman*

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

MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of the State
 Fish and Game Department.
 Published Monthly at Helena, Montana.

FLOYD L. SMITH, Editor

Subscription Rate \$1 per Year—15 Cents per Copy
 Advertising Rates on Application



Copy for advertisements subject to approval of State Commission and must be in the hands of the editor at the State Capitol building, Helena, on the 15th of the month preceding publication date.

VOL. III

NOVEMBER, 1930

NO. 6

SPORTSMEN MUST WAKE UP

SHOOTING is only one of many factors responsible for the reduction of game. In some cases it is not even the chief factor, though some propagandists harp on the one string, that smaller bags, shorter seasons and other restrictions are the one and only remedy for disappearing game. Without food, cover, sanctuary, brood stock, control of enemies, and adequate range, shooting may be entirely prohibited to no effect. Game will disappear.

That game can not live in a desert where there is no water or food, in a burned forest where cover and food are destroyed, or on intensively cultivated farms where no nesting sites are permitted, no one will dispute, and wherever these barren conditions are approached, the wild life is always proportionately reduced. Constant restocking of field, forest and stream is mandatory in order that the supply of fish and game keep pace with civilization and ever-increasing demands. Montana's Fish and Game Department has in hand one of the greatest programs of conservation in the west. To carry it to a successful conclusion additional revenue is required and to this end an adjustment in the fishing and hunting license fee is the solution proposed.

The extermination of the passenger pigeon and the near-extermination of the buffalo are the two threadbare examples always cited as illustrating the effect of man's destructive propensities. It may be that excessive killing by man was the chief destructive factor in both instances, yet there were other influences nearly if not quite as effective in wiping out the millions of these creatures which once swarmed over the country.

The plow and the cow made it impossible for a herd of buffalo to find wild range anywhere in the United States. The ax and the saw played havoc with the roosting and nesting groves of the pigeon.

Just so the displacement of the worm rail fence, the stone wall and the hedgerow by the wire fence has obliterated the cover of bob-white; the steam shovel and the ditching machine have sucked out the water and dried up the homes of the waterfowl and the muskrat; the same engines have caused an impenetrable crust to form where the woodcock was wont to bore for food; fire, pasturage, deforestation and cultivation have ruined the resorts of grouse, deer and moose; all these agencies added to pollution have obliterated many streams or made them untenable for fish.

These things can not be charged to "sportsmen," though the man with the gun must bear his rightful share of the blame, because the common run of gunners are not always sportsmen. A few hoggish individuals have brought odium on the fraternity.

It is up to the man who is not reconciled to hang up his gun and rod for keeps to help solve this problem in a constructive way. He must work through organization to put effective methods into operation. More restrictive laws will not suffice. There must be more food, more cover, more sanctuary, more breeding and stocking, and better law enforcement.

If sportsmen continue their indifferent attitude shooting will be abolished either by law or gradual disappearance of game. Only a small proportion of the men who buy hunting licenses are members of any sportsmen's organization. Banquets, resolutions and speeches create no fish or game, but as a means to the desired end, organization is the only salvation of field sports in America.

The United States is guilty of polluting its lakes and streams more than any country in the world.

JERSEY HUNTERS CLAMOR TO PAY HIGHER LICENSE

HERE is an instance of hundreds of men clamoring for a higher tax upon their own pleasure. Organized hunters and fishermen of New Jersey will go in force before the state legislature to obtain an increase in hunting and fishing license fees.

Enthusiasm for a higher cost of license has become practically unanimous in New Jersey, due to the highly favorable results obtained through a similar move of sportsmen a few years ago, when they added 50 cents to the license fees.

Increased game distribution made possible by the new funds has given New Jersey sportsmen the best hunting in many years, officials declare. The state fish and game commission achieved a new record for game propagation in releasing 25,000 ringneck pheasants and 15,000 western rabbits this season and in other restoration projects. The new license returns to the commission will not only provide for more game and fish, but for the purchase of long-term leases by the state of cheap lands for public hunting grounds.

Only God can make a tree.

A WOODSMAN'S WISDOM

What weighs an ounce in the morning, weighs a pound at night.

A pint is a pound the whole world round.

Allah reckons not against a man's allotted time the days he spends in the chase.

If there's only one, it isn't a track, it's an accident.

Better safe than sorry.

No smoke without fire.

The bluejay doesn't scream without reason.

Ducks flying overhead in the woods are generally pointed for water.

If turtles on a log are dry, they have been there half an hour or more, which means no one has been near to alarm them.

Cobwebs across a hole mean "nothing inside."

Between eleven and two

You can tell what the weather is going to do.

The Injun says, "White man fool, make big fire, can't go near; Indian make little fire and sit happy."

THE BENEFITS OF SOLITUDE

PRESIDENT HOOVER'S reference to solitude while studying nature as the only opportunity "for refreshment of one's soul and clarification of one's thoughts" seems to have slowed up for a moment the machinery in his own engineering, electrical, mechanical, time-saving age. Yet he knew what he was saying as would anybody else who had put in winters and summers in remotest Australia, the back of China, India's interior, or the mining districts of Russia. Such places impose the necessity of developing one's own inward resources. Afterward one is lonesome nowhere. Returning to crowded neighborhoods and busy occupations he misses the daily leisure to consult with himself. The harm of being too sedulously employed is that it limits action in solving any single problem.

President Hoover has the support of most poets and some classic essayists.

"Wholesome solitude, the nurse of sense," was the way Pope described it. "Nothing is achieved without solitude," concluded Lacordaire. Simms at a later date observed that "solitude bears the same relation to the mind that sleep does to the body," and Disraeli added that it "is the nurse of enthusiasm and the true parent of genius."

"What," asked Hawthorne, "would a man do if he were compelled to always live in the sultry heat of society and could never better himself in cool solitude?" Which dovetails with Goethe's saying: "One can be instructed in society; one is inspired only in solitude."

Others have found various virtues in solitude. Their words have been often quoted:

In the world a man lives in his own age; in solitude, in all ages.—Matthews.

Solitude shows us what we should be; society shows us what we are.—Cecil.

If the mind loves solitude, it has thereby acquired a loftier character.—Humboldt.

Wretched and too solitary he who loves not his own company.—Cowley.

Solitude cherishes great virtues and destroys little ones.—Sidney Smith.

Solitude is as needful to the imagination as society is wholesome to the character.—Lowell.

Solitude is essential to man; we come into the world alone; all leave it alone.—De Quincey.

In winter's chill and rime and murk
We find it difficult to work.
But in the balmy days of spring
We find the self-same, gosh-durned thing.

CONSERVATION VALUED AT BILLION ANNUALLY

WILD LIFE conservation is worth \$1,000,000,000 a year to this country, according to W. L. McAtee of the Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture. Mr. McAtee, who is in charge of the bureau's division of food habits research, made this estimate on the basis of the following items:

Meat and fur production, about \$150,000,000; destruction of harmful insects by birds, \$350,000,000; production of fish, \$15,000,000; hunters' expenditures, \$160,000,000; hunters' license fees, more than \$9,000,000; and a share of general tourist expenditures credited to the drawing power of wild life, \$252,000,000.

"At least \$1,000,000 was spent by visitors to the national forests and national parks in one typical year," said Mr. McAtee, "and probably one-seventh of all such expenditures may be attributed to the drawing power of the wild life in those areas. All this contributes to the material welfare of the people in sections where the parks and forests are located.

"It all goes to show that it is a wise policy to increase wild life, and so augment our wealth in natural resources. Wild life should be given not only living room but the best available methods of care. Besides helping toward the general aims of the federal and state wild life reservations, the layman can assist by protecting birds and their nestings and the small animal life, helping them in winter feeding and in supplying home sites, and in many other constructive ways.

"The forest area of this country is estimated at 470,000,000 acres. If that can be kept producing wild life, it would easily mean an increase of what may be calculated at about \$21,000,000 annually."

A TRIBUTE FROM ANACONDA

DURING these strenuous days when thoughts of the majority of men are turned toward commercial activities, a tribute to the work being done for the benefit of sportsmen of the state by the workers and affiliated supporters of the State Fish and Game Commission is deeply appreciated. Such a tribute is offered in an editorial published by The Anaconda Standard. It follows, in part:

How many men who shoulder rod or gun and go out after game or the finny brethren realize what a handful of real sportsmen in Montana have been doing in their behalf? The ordinary gunner or fisherman never gives it a thought. Merely gets his apparatus together and hies to stream or field. He doesn't know that:

Men who do not get a cent in salary or wages make it possible for him to have his favorite sport. They have propagated the wild life or it would be so scarce even in this prolific state that seeking it would be too arduous a task to make it attractive. There may be many others, but we know one man of independent means in the prime of life who could be making money hand over fist if he so desired. Instead he has good, sound investments and a deeply rooted love of hunting and fishing. That man expends energy galore in restocking streams and fields. He is out almost every favorable day for hunting and fishing. No matter how early he gets his bag limit or creel allowance, nothing in this world could tempt that man to take one bird or one fish above the legal allotment. If he gets "his" early in the day, he'll prow around the watershed scanning localities favorable for spawning grounds or rearing ponds, or if it be game he's after, interviewing ranchers regarding cover or possible game law violators.

Many a day that man puts in on a springless truck carting cans of fingerling trout to high mountain streams and all without a cent of pay or thought or reward other than the satisfaction of the thing. Yet only a few of his intimate friends know what he is doing. Perhaps there are many of him in Montana. Let's hope so.

The purling waters of trout streams wear down the rocky points of contact between father and son.

SANCTUARIES SAVE WILD BIRDS

CREATING refuges or sanctuaries is proving more effective than legislating against hunting in the preservation of wild birds. Urbanization of many broad regions is destroying the lakes, swamps, streams and forests which are breeding places, havens and feeding grounds of wildfowl. The sweep of the forest fire, the draining of a lake and consequent loss of shelter for game destroy more birds than the unethical hunter and predatory animals.

If gaps made in the flocks of game birds every hunting season are to be filled up during the breeding season, man must see to it that adequate breeding grounds are preserved, or, if destroyed, restored or supplanted by new ones.

Wherever conditions are adapted to their requirements wild creatures will be found. Destroy their refuge and they will not return until it has been restored. Restore an old sanctuary and birds and other game will return as if by the call of some supernatural voice.

All know how easily one can attract wild birds to town yard or country garden by providing food, drink and protection regularly. They are quick to learn where they are wanted—and just as instinctively know where they are unwanted.

What the nature lover can do in a small way in attracting birds and the small game to his doorstep and arbor can be accomplished in a large way by the creation of large sanctuaries.

High water-level years are the years in which to assure permanent water-levels in lakes.

MAN-MADE CAUSES

IT IS true that natural enemies, disease and starvation raise havoc with wild birds and wild mammals, but these ills our wild friends have always had to combat. But think of man-made destructive agencies that man had added—guns, traps, snares, poisons, trained dogs, decoys, sneak boats, sink boxes, blinds, motor boats, automobiles, baited waters and fields. And then we wonder why our wild life is disappearing.

Modern Miracle at State Game Farm

MONTANA has accomplished what sportsmen of the state regard as almost a modern miracle, in liberating a total of 6,146 Chinese pheasants in 55 of the 56 counties of the Treasure State within a year following the creation and establishing of the first state game farm at Warm Springs. The season, in the majority of counties, opened November 23 and continued through November 27, the bag limit being three male pheasants per day. Under the direction of J. F. Hendricks,

superintendent of the state game farm, these birds have been hatched by domestic biddies, reared at the state farm and carried by motor truck and rail transportation to the points of liberation. Because of the lack of adequate feed and cover, none of the Oriental game birds have been released this year in that area adjoining the Idaho state line in Mineral county. All other counties have been made testing grounds, the larger number being released in counties where better conditions prevail.

Construction of an additional 100 pens is now proceeding at the interesting institution at Warm Springs. Completion of these wire enclosures will add to the capacity of the farm and enable the State Fish and Game Commission to make increased plantings in 1931.

Additional tests will be made with the propagation of Hungarian partridges in captivity. Superintendent Hendricks has the nucleus for a start at the farm, several pairs having been trapped and moved into captivity. The Hungarian, however, is not a polygamist and selects his mate with extreme care, hence out of the group in captivity the result of mating is yet to be determined.

The following tabulation indicates the distribution of Chinese pheasants by counties up to November 1.

Beaverhead	244
Big Horn	168
Blaine	84
Broadwater	84
Carbon	140
Carter	108
Cascade	144
Chouteau	120
Custer	96
Daniels	72
Dawson	96
Deer Lodge	155
Fallon	72
Fergus	162
Flathead	168
Gallatin	68
Garfield	72
Glacier	36
Golden Valley	96
Granite	48
Hill	144
Jefferson	124
Judith Basin	92
Lake	120
Lewis and Clark	250
Liberty	72
Lincoln	96
Madison	374
McCone	72
Meagher	96
Mineral
Missoula	96
Musselshell	96
Park	120
Petroleum	82
Phillips	96
Pondera	120
Powder River	48
Powell	150
Prairie	96
Ravalli	216
Richland	96
Roosevelt	87
Rosebud	96
Sanders	48
Sheridan	88
Silver Bow	24
Stillwater	116
Sweet Grass	120
Teton	96
Toole	72
Treasure	96
Valley	108
Wheatland	72
Wilbaux	96
Yellowstone	138
Total.....	6,146

Little Sister Lake



KENNETH D. SWAN of Missoula, photographer of the U. S. National Forest Service, contributes this scenic shot of another beauty spot of Montana taken in the Flathead National Forest. Little Sister Lake and others in the vicinity team with trout stocked by hatcheries of the State Fish and Game Commission and the federal government.

Idaho's Hunting and Fishing Fees

WHILE Montana's Fish and Game Commission is pressing its campaign of constructive conservation, it is likewise taking time to take an active part in matters of interstate importance in which Montana sportsmen are keenly interested. Equalization of the non-resident license fees as charged in Idaho and Montana has become a question of importance, and, if present indications are correct, the matter will be taken before the Idaho state legislature when it meets at Boise in its next session.

Through the activity of Thomas N. Marlowe, chairman of the Montana Commission, and R. E. (Dick) Thomas, Idaho's state game warden, some revision of the fees now charged may be made through legislative action. At the present time residents of Idaho who flock to Montana's trout streams near the Idaho state line may fish in Montana by paying a non-resident fee of \$3.50 for the privilege. Montana sportsmen, on the other hand, must pay \$5 for the similar privilege of fishing in Idaho. Idaho sportsmen may obtain a general hunting and fishing license for non-residents in Montana for \$30 while Montana sportsmen who desire a similar license in Idaho must pay \$50. Sportsmen of sister states agree that the fees should be equalized and the work of several years seems about to bring results.

The following letter, written by Secretary Charles E. Horning of Wallace, of the Shoshone county chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, to the Idaho game warden, explains the situation:

"We recently received a letter from Mr. Thomas N. Marlowe, chairman of the Montana State Game Commission, in which he protested against the cost of non-resident hunting and fishing licenses in Idaho. Mr. Marlowe called attention to the fact that residents of Idaho may fish in Montana waters for a license fee of \$3.50, while residents of Montana must pay a fee of \$5.00 for the privilege of fishing in Idaho; and that residents of Idaho may obtain a general hunting and fishing license in Montana for the sum of \$30, but that residents of Montana must pay \$50 for a similar license in this state. In Mr. Marlowe's opinion, this is unfair both to the State of Montana and to Montana sportsmen.

"This matter was taken up at a recent meeting of the directors of our chapter and the directors were unanimously of the opinion that Mr. Marlowe's complaint is justified. As secretary of the chapter, I was instructed to give you our views on this subject. We are of the opinion that Idaho should fix a minimum fee of \$25.00 for non-resident general licenses, and should then provide that residents of other states having a higher non-resident general license fee should be charged a fee equal to that charged non-residents in their own states. Of course this change could be brought

Lest You Forget

THE migratory waterfowl season closes on December 31. The open season on Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges, in specifically named counties, extends from November 23 to 27, both dates inclusive. The bag limit is three birds. Only Chinese pheasant cocks may be bagged.

The open season on elk in the Yellowstone Park area in Park county outside the park extends from October 15 to December 20. Shooting is permitted between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m.

The open season on elk in the Sun River district extends from October 15 to December 1. This area is in Teton county, not included within game preserves, and that portion of Lewis and Clark county lying north of the North Fork of the Dearborn River.

The open season on Rocky mountain goats in Ravalli county closed on November 15.

about only through legislative action. "Similar action is recommended with reference to our non-resident angling licenses.

"An examination of the game laws of the various states discloses the fact that a number of different states have reciprocal laws such as I have suggested. Among these are the States of Washington and Nevada. The Washington statute was clearly enacted as a slap at Idaho. As you are of course aware, Washington has a non-resident general license fee of \$25.00. But they have added a provision to the effect that if the applicant for a license is from an adjoining state he must pay the same fee that a resident of Washington would be required to pay in the state in which such applicant resides. This provision was intended, of course, to apply only to residents of Idaho, since both Oregon and California have lower non-resident license fees than are charged in Washington.

"There would seem to be no good reason why the sportsmen from adjoining states should be charged so much more to hunt big game in Idaho than our own sportsmen are charged for hunting privileges in these other states. As between Idaho and our neighboring states much of this big game is migratory, ranging in Idaho, for instance, in certain seasons of the year and in an adjoining state during other seasons. It is hardly becoming of us to establish a monopoly on these animals by charging our neighbors a prohibitory license fee.

"Many of us in this section of Idaho fish a great deal in Montana and hunt in that state every fall. We hunt in that state for several reasons—one reason, and perhaps the principal one, being that deer are more easily obtained in Montana than in Idaho. I am still referring to this particular section of Idaho. Many of our sportsmen hunt ducks in Montana in pref-

erence to hunting these birds in our own state.

"It costs Montana money—and a lot of it—to keep her streams stocked with fish and to protect her birds and game animals, and no good reason suggests itself why we should expect to enjoy hunting and fishing privileges in that state for about one-half the fee that we charge residents of Montana who may occasionally wish to hunt or fish in Idaho. The wonder is that Montana has not adopted retaliatory measures similar to those which have been adopted in both Washington and Nevada. Her people are noted for their friendliness and for their big-heartedness, but sooner or later they are going to tire of our taking advantage of them.

"From a practical standpoint it is very doubtful, I think, whether our fish and game would suffer to any appreciable extent through a lowering of our license fees. A few residents of our neighboring states who live near the Idaho boundary would probably do a little fishing and hunting in this state. But a lowering of our non-residence license fees would result in a lowering of the fees which our sportsmen would be charged for hunting and fishing across the Nevada and Washington lines. A lot of our own hunters would then go into these states for their annual hunting trip instead of killing our own game, and mutual accounts would not likely be far off balance. So far as Montana is concerned, her sportsmen have so much game right at their back doors that they wouldn't leave home for a hunting trip no matter how much we might lower the price of their licenses. A lowering of our non-residence fees would, so far as Montana is concerned, be for the most part only a friendly gesture. If we are not interested in the execution of friendly gestures, we might look at the matter from another angle and say that if we continue to adopt a selfish attitude toward our neighbors there is considerable danger that one of these days they will be charging us fifty dollars for the privilege of hunting over there.

"If your views upon this subject are contrary to ours will you please let us hear from you. It is not likely that the suggested amendment could be passed without your advocacy of it. If you are in favor of such an amendment I think we shall probably proceed at once to seek the views of other Izaak Walton chapters and to endeavor to arouse a little sentiment in favor of the change."

FUEL TO THE FLAMES

Wife: "Don't you dare to speak to me again for a month."

Husband: "Do you think you'll have finished all you want to say by then?"

House Cats and Birds of Prey

By JACK MINER, Kingsville, Ont.

DURING my extensive travels, meeting with about all classes of bird lovers and sportsmen, I certainly do get a variety of opinions about birds and animals, but all agree that education has practically stopped humanity from destroying song and insectivorous birds and our cardinals, scarlet tanagers, gold finches, swallows, native sparrows, brown thrushes, wax wings and hundreds of other loving, cheerful winged creatures are scarcely shot at all today, where 25 or 50 years ago everything was shot down. Again let me say thanks for better education.

Now the question comes, why are these cheerful, lovable birds not increasing more rapidly? All this to me is far easier than A B C. It's their natural enemies that are keeping them down, and yet intelligent men are writing articles trying to lead the public to believe that hawks and owls should be protected, "because they are becoming too scarce." Remember, I don't get my knowledge from the city or out of books, possibly written for some purpose, but I get my knowledge from the woods and the fields, and I am right here to tell the world we have ten times more hawks and owls than we need, and if I could reduce these birds of prey 90 per cent I would do it right this minute, for these birds of prey are the direct cause of our cheerful birds not increasing.

My home is about 15 miles from Point Pelee, which is the most extreme southern part of the Dominion of Canada, and any person who will go there from September to October and see the hawks, crows and grackles migrating south will change his mind as to the danger of their becoming extinct, and if he is a far-thinking man and knows anything about the murderous habits of these birds of prey he will readily understand the handicap under which our lovable birds are trying to exist.

Will you please stop and consider how fast our desirable birds multiply? The majority of them raise at least two broods of from three to five, and they are not winter killed, because they migrate out of the country. Yes, the little chipping sparrow will raise three broods of from three to four and while the mourning dove lays only two eggs, they often nest four times. These facts will give any reader a reason to wonder why they are not more abundant. Yet we have professional men writing articles advocating protection of hawks and owls because "they are getting scarce" or "because they kill field mice." Apparently perfectly blind as to the value and cheer of the birds, these birds of prey are depriving us of having, and at the same time nearly every one of these men advocate the destruction of the house cat because it kills birds. This proves to my entire satisfaction that they have watched the house cat sneaking and springing onto birds on the lawns in the cities, where there are no mice, but if they take the

Montana Wild Life as Christmas Gift

WHEN you are making up your Christmas gift list, bear in mind the fact that friends and relatives in Montana or in eastern states will long cherish your thoughtfulness if you will send them a year's subscription to MONTANA WILD LIFE as your Yuletide greeting. Twelve copies—one each month—for \$1 will carry the message of what Montana is doing to conserve fish and game resources to your associates at home or in other states. Obey the impulse. Make up the list of subscribers at \$1 each now. Mail it to The Editor, MONTANA WILD LIFE, Helena, Montana.

same cat into the country where hawks and owls live they will find he is the greatest mouse killer of any of our birds' enemies. How an intelligent man can advocate the destruction of the house cat and the protection of the great horned owl, goshawks, Cooper's hawk, sharp shinned hawk, marsh hawks, crows and grackles is more than I can understand; for the positive facts are that the house cat is a far greater mouse killer, according to the number of birds he kills, than any one of the above-mentioned birds of prey.

In other words, the house cat is the natural mouse hunter, but takes birds if he can get them. These hawks and owls are natural bird hunters, but will take mice if they can not get birds. All men that are acquainted with the creatures know that this is true. Now don't any one be led to believe that I am in favor of the house cat. I have not kept one on my premises for 30 years and I destroy every one that comes on the premises; but the great horned owl is five times more destructive on birds than the cat ever was. Never have I known a cat to climb over 15 feet high in a tree for the purpose of getting a bird's nest, nor have I seen his claw marks around an empty nest that high in a tree; but there is not a bird that can build high enough or low enough to be out of reach of the great horned owl. Yes, it is true the great horned owl will kill crows now and then and that is the reason the crows are fighting him and trying to drive him out of the country before he goes to roost; but remember, the great horned owl also kills the red-tailed hawk, and a red-tailed hawk kills fully five times as many crows as an owl does, for the crow is one of the easiest birds for an awkward red-tailed hawk to catch. When we are catching crows here one of our handicaps is the red-tailed hawk coming and disturbing them. I have seen this great favorite of mine dart right under my crow net after crows and you can well believe I didn't catch many crows that morning.

Some writers take us back 50 or 60 years and tell us how all these creatures, from the panther or mountain lion down to the chickadee, all harmoniously multiplied together. Yes, I was here 55 and 60 years ago and I was 10 years old 55 years ago, and there were ten times more pigeons in Ohio than there were all other varieties of birds combined—yes, over nine out of ten of the birds were pigeons—and they apparently multiplied like rabbits and became more plentiful each year; and in 1878 they were dying, and 90 per cent of them were gone in five years. This left all these hawks and owls to feed on other birds and they are still doing it.

Isn't this a fact: if a bunch of our school boys go on a birds' nest robbing expedition we will prosecute them, while these hawks and owls are on a bloody expedition every day and night of the year and you advocate protecting them? Is it true you have more love for these winged kidnaping murderers than you have for your neighbors' boys?

The biggest joke to me is, "you are disturbing the balance of nature." Yes, I have about 35 acres enclosed here at my home, planted out with all bird-attracting trees. There are practically no mice here, but we shoot at least 100 hawks a year. May I ask any fair-thinking man why these hawks concentrate here on this little 35 acres? Why, because there are more birds here than there are on any other 1000 acres in the county. Yes, I have disturbed the balance of nature by planting 15,000 trees and shrubs, including hawthorne, mulberry, wild grape and so forth; in other words, I took God at His promise in Genesis 1, verses 26-27-28; and any other human being can do the same and the birds will change their migrating route and come to you for food and protection from their natural enemies. You, too, can have your country home fairly echoing with the coos, songs and singing of our choice God-given creatures that He promised that men could have dominion over. But don't tell us to destroy the house cat and protect the winged devils that are far worse enemies to our birds.

Bobby (reading aloud): "John appeared presently in immaculate evening dress. What does 'immaculate' mean?"

Eight-year-old Sister: "No gravy spots on it."

"Got anything snappy in rubber bands?" asked the boy from the town.

"No," said the salesgirl, sweetly, "but we have got something awfully swatty in fly paper."

Author: "When my play was produced the public stormed the ticket office!"

Friend: "Did they get their money back?"

The Passing of the Heath Hen

IN 1914 there died in Cincinnati a famous native American. "Martha" was her name and her fame consisted of the fact that she was the last of her race, the sole survivor of the countless millions of passenger pigeons which once darkened the skies in their flight in the Mississippi Valley. Today somewhere in the protecting scrub oak which covers the green plains of Martha's Vineyard there wanders another native American who is the successor to the unique position once held by "Martha." He bears no man-given name, for where "Martha" died in captivity he is spending his last years in the freedom of a vast reservation which was created 20 years ago to save his species from extinction. But the effort has failed for today this single heath hen, a male, on Martha's Vineyard, is the last of his race.

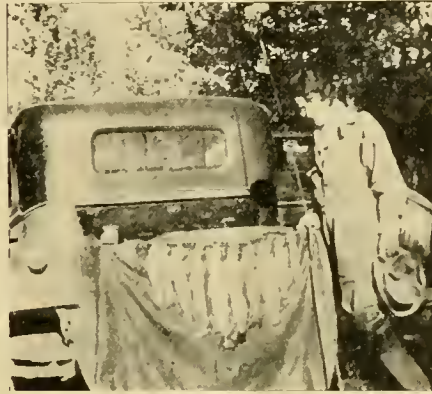
When the earliest settlers came to New England the heath hen was the most abundant of all game birds in the East, being distributed from Cape Ann to Virginia and especially abundant in the lowlands of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Long Island. In fact, in Governor Winthrop's day this bird was so common around Boston that laborers "bound out" to employers stipulated in their agreements with their masters that it should not be served to them as their food oftener "than a few times a week." But when the settlers began cutting off the forests the decline of the heath hen started. The spread of civilization and the increasing number of cats and dogs which preyed upon its young further decimated the heath hen and by a century ago they were gone from the mainland of Massachusetts, although a few lingered for another decade or two on outer Long Island and on the Jersey plains.

Eventually it was discovered that the island of Martha's Vineyard off the Massachusetts coast was the only place where these birds could be found and even there they were engaged in what seemed a hopeless struggle against death.

In 1876 they were reported extinct and the introduction of foxes and raccoons to the island the following year made the death of the race seem certain. But somehow the heath hens re-established themselves. In the early '90s William Brewster reckoned that there might be 200 birds left on the island. The grass fire of 1804 ruined their breeding ground, and observers could find only five birds that autumn. In 1897 a hunter with a bird dog failed to start a single bird. Yet again they came back, only to suffer in another fire in 1906. Massachusetts game wardens set the heath hen population at 21 in 1907 and at 50 or more in 1908. Then the state took a hand and gave the birds active protection.

By 1916 the colony had grown to a thousand. The foxes and raccoons were exterminated; other pests were kept down. But that summer another fire

Teacher Is Angler



MISS MINNIE M. AUMOCK, teacher in the Laurel public schools, is an ardent angler. The snapshot above shows a splendid catch made by Miss Aumock using flies in the Stillwater River. She landed the big fellows unassisted.

swept over the heath hen reservation, and that autumn great flights of goshawks descended on the island and preyed on the survivors. In 1917 fewer than 100 heath hens were left; these increased to more than 400 in 1922, when a cold, wet season almost wiped out the colony. Perhaps 50 birds were left in 1923, possibly 30 in 1927. Despite the care of the state and of the Martha's Vineyard Rod and Gun Club, despite distribution of food, cultivation of clover and sunflowers, despite the destruction of cats and rats and crows and hawks, the colony dwindled steadily.

And now there is only one left. Professor Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College, who for several years had made an annual census of the heath hens on the island, returned to Boston and submitted his annual report. In it he said:

"During the year 1928 the number of heath hens dwindled from three to one lone bird. This bird was alive at the time of the annual census taken March 30 to April 3, 1929. Though suggestions have been made to the state department of conservation to collect and preserve this last bird for science, it has been allowed to live its normal life among the scrub oaks on the sandy plains of Martha's Vineyard island.

"The bird continued to visit the farm of James Green, West Tisbury, during the early spring of 1929, and was reported as late as May 11. After that date, as was the custom of the heath hen in the past, this individual disappeared among the dense scrub oaks to live in seclusion during the summer months. In October, after going through

the ordeal of moulting, it again appeared at the Green farm to announce to the world that it was still alive.

It was seen at irregular intervals during the winter, and since the first warm days of March it has made daily visits to the traditional 'booming' field, the old meadow along the state highway between Edgartown and West Tisbury, in a place less than a hundred yards distant from Mr. Green's house."

Almost simultaneously with the announcement that the heath hen was traversing the last mile of its road to extinction came the news also that the supposedly extinct passenger pigeon had staged a "come-back." At least two Michigan men, Robert H. Wright, Munising publisher, and Dr. Samuel R. Landes of Traverse City, both of whom knew the passenger pigeon in the days of its abundance, declare that within recent months they have seen passenger pigeons in northern Michigan. Wright, his wife and son declare that from a distance of 10 feet they saw two adult pigeons sitting in the road near Munising, and Doctor Landes and his brother state that they saw a flock of approximately 15 between Kokomo, Ind., and Indianapolis, while driving from Florida to Michigan.

William B. Mershon of Saginaw, one of America's leading authorities on the subject, and Professor Norman A. Wood of the University of Michigan, say there is not the remotest chance for the survival of a single passenger pigeon. Reports have long been received of the pigeon's presence in various localities, but investigation has proved the observers mistaken. Usually the pseudo "passenger pigeon" was found to be a mourning dove or the hand-tailed pigeon from the West.

The extermination of the passenger pigeon was accomplished even more swiftly than that of the heath hen. Michigan was their principal nesting grounds and their rookeries in the northern part of that state covered dozens of square miles with as many as a hundred nests, each occupied by one or two squabs, in a single tree. The farmers considered them a pest and the slaughter of the birds which began in the sixties reached its high tide in the seventies, when the commercial possibilities of the birds were realized.

No one took steps to regulate the slaughter, for the supply was considered unlimited. No matter how many thousands or even millions were killed, the enormous flocks still streamed out of the South in April. They still darkened the sun—broke the branches from trees by their weight. Their rookeries still filled the woods. Then shortly after 1880 the pigeons suddenly disappeared.

Pigeons were observed near Cadillac in 1888, but disappeared a month after their arrival. They were traced northward as far as Oden, Emmet county, and are presumed to have crossed the Straits of the Mackinaw into the Upper

Peninsula or Ontario. After 1888 no large flocks were seen anywhere, and the appearance of a single bird was considered worthy of mention in scientific journals.

Another American bird which is now extinct—and has been for nearly a hundred years—is the great auk. It was different from any other American bird in that it could not fly, although it had great powers of swimming and diving. Its native habitat was the coast and islands of the North Atlantic and from the first arrival of white men on the shores of the New World they preyed upon these birds, seeking out their eggs for food and killing the birds for their feathers. The slaughter of the defenseless birds went on for more than two centuries when it was suddenly discovered that the great auk was all but exterminated. The last specimens, a male and a female, were killed on Fire Island off the southwestern coast of Iceland in the North Atlantic on June 3, 1844, by the crew of a sloop which visited the island for a cargo of meat and feathers of other seafoal which inhabited the place. Today either mounted specimens or eggs of the great auk command huge sums whenever, which is a rare occurrence, they are offered for sale. It is estimated that there are about 70 eggs in existence today while the number of skins or mounted specimens does not exceed 80.

The great auk and the passenger pigeon are extinct. The heath hen is nearing extinction. And not far behind it on the road to oblivion, in spite of all the efforts that have been made to preserve them, are other species. Notable among these are the majestic trumpeter swan, which is today a rarity even in zoos, and the snowy egret, which is all but extinct because its dorsal plumage in the breeding season furnishes the much sought aigrette for the ornamentation of women's hats. And so widespread has been the destruction of our national bird, the bald eagle, that only recently a bill was introduced into congress forbidding the killing of an eagle, except when it is caught attacking livestock, in an effort to save it from the fate which has already overtaken some of our birds and is threatening so many others.

She: "You're nothing but a 'yes' man."

He: "You don't seem to mind it, though, when you ask me to take you to dinner."

"What's your name?" inquired the traveler.

"George Washington, sah!"

"Wel, that's a name everybody knows."

"If it ain't, it ought to be. I'se been drivin' dis yere hack in dis yere town foh thutty years, suh."

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Too Many Bears In Yellowstone Park

BEARS in Yellowstone National Park have reached the peak which their numbers should be permitted to maintain, according to Superintendent Roger W. Toll. This means that about 30 black bears and 10 grizzlies will have to be "controlled" or disposed of by park rangers each year. It is claimed that a larger number than there are at present would be a menace to visitors and that the natural food supply is insufficient for more than the present number, which is 160 grizzly bear and 450 black bear.

There are of other large animals in the park—650 antelope, 1,113 buffalo, 150 mountain sheep, 700 moose, 10,600 elk and 800 deer. The problem of disposing or caring for the excess over the maximum number of game animals that the park can support is great.

The elk find abundant summer range in the park but their food problem is in lack of winter range, which is in lower country outside the park where the elk are in competition with livestock ranges and where losses from starvation have frequently occurred.

Game Leaders Meet In December

WITH the imperative need of restoring the decimated ranks of wild life due in part to the huge toll taken by drought and forest fires, the Seventeenth Annual American Game Conference, to be held at Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, December 1 and 2, will redouble its efforts to form a national game policy. The conference will be under the auspices

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of the American Game Protective Association.

The promotion of the conservation and wise administration of our wild life will be an important part of the conference, according to Ross L. Leffler, president of the Board of Game Commissioners of Pennsylvania, and chairman of the conference.

The development of a national game policy presents many problems, particularly that of land management. The committee appointed two years ago to formulate such a policy has given the question careful consideration. Its report, and the subsequent discussions, will be of vital interest to the representatives who will assist in the working out of the national policy so that when it is finally adopted the activities of state, provincial, federal and Dominion agencies will be properly coordinated.

Game commissioners or their delegates will represent every state in the Union and every province in Canada, and all are expected to take part in the discussions calculated to bring about the formulation of this much-needed policy.

With the policy established, it is believed, conservation and restoration of wild life will be speeded up and a great deal of constructive work will go forward.

The conference is a cooperative association of many organizations, national and international in scope, interested in the promotion, development and preservation of land, water, forest, plant, scenic and wild life resources of the North American continent.

Teacher: "What insect lives on the least food?"

Bright Student: "The moth; it eats holes."



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"Cafeterias" To Save Wild Life

EVERYTHING from airplanes to rural mail carriers will contribute services in establishing "cafeterias" for feeding wild life this winter, according to reports to the American Game Protective Association. The drought has destroyed so much food and cover that wild life faces conditions that might exterminate it this winter if man does not come to its rescue.

Because of these conditions every one should contribute his or her help to feeding wild life; for it will face a severe crisis this winter.

Perhaps the first and wisest step is to get instructions regarding what should be done in each locality from the deputy game warden or the state department. Conditions will vary in all localities, and methods that would be ideal in one locality would not be suited for another.

Airplanes will be used to drop "grain bombs" in the more remote sections of the east when snow covers what little food is left from the drought; rural mail carriers, working with sportsmen and other nature lovers, will carry feed into the country and either scatter it at cafeteria feeding stations along the road or get farmer friends to take it to the ranges of game, song and insectivorous birds. Some flour mills, grinding mills and grain elevators intend to save "sweepings" against this emergency, and furnish the grain to the mail carriers and others who will agree to feed it to the suffering wild life.

School teachers will interest their classes in carrying out this humane work of winter feeding. Sportsmen do much of this work every year, but will redouble their efforts this year.

FOXES

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Eastern States Are Planting Huns

MONTANA has made a success of planting and protecting the wily Hungarian partridge. Efforts are now being made to acclimate the gamey foreigner in eastern states and Canada. Sportsmen of the Treasure State are unanimous in their laudatory comments regarding the foxy traits of the feathered wizard and during the open season extending from November 23-27 in designated counties, shotgun wielders have been provided sport aplenty.

Benjamin Lawton, game commissioner of Alberta, reports that the Hungarian partridge is being established with remarkable success in the Canadian western provinces. While this bird and others that may be "planted" should not be thought of as replacing the native species of game birds, the establishment of the Hungarian will go a long way towards keeping up a balance of game reserves.

Though the Hungarian partridge has not been established in the United States as yet, his tribe is being raised on a large scale in Montana, Oregon, Washington, and the Canadian western provinces.

More recent attempts to establish the Hungarian are being made in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio. A successful experiment is reported from Minnesota.

The Hungarian can thrive in latitudes farther north than quail choose as a natural habitat, game breeders report.

Weasels Increase Despite Bounty

LIKE the miracle of the loaves and fishes the little ermine or weasel is said to be on the increase in Pennsylvania in spite of the fact that \$84,000 was paid in bounties on their pelts last year at \$1 per pelt. The kill of weasels for hounties has averaged 47,000 a year in that state for the past 15 years and the game commission says 100,000 a year will have to be killed before the increase is checked.

The payment of bounties to control predators is a moot question. The federal government employs trained hunters and trappers and pays no bounties. Some states cooperate with the government, while others adhere to the bounty system. Pennsylvania is firmly committed to bounties. One objection to bounties is that it encourages fraud, many instances of gross deception and illegal collection of bounties being recorded.

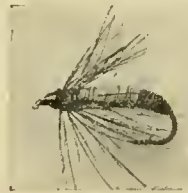
Pennsylvania pays bounties as follows: Wildcats \$15, gray foxes \$4, weasels \$1, goshawks \$5. The total paid in bounties is a large sum, reaching more than \$100,000 annually, but the game commission is convinced that it is a good economical investment.

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Montana Sportsmen's Association

THE number of "No Trespass" signs is growing each year. Dozens of sportsmen are denied the privilege of fishing and hunting in many desirable areas because of the acts of every thoughtless fisherman and hunter. Real sportsmen are tending every assistance for game conservation. If they are to be denied the use of privately owned lands, then much of their effort is in vain and considerable attention should be given to the elimination of these un-sportsmanlike few. The land owners and sportsmen have many things in common. The wild life of Montana attracts many tourists each year. The tax from gasoline used by the tourists builds many miles of modern highways and a good highway greatly increases the value of land. Both are greatly interested in and working for the destruction of predatory animals and birds which are very destructive to domestic animals and poultry as well as game animals and birds. Many of the upland birds have their place in Nature's program of raising vegetables, fruits and grains. Much valuable assistance is given by the farmers in the care and feeding of game birds and animals during the winter months.

B. F. Gerry, Secretary of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, says an appeal is being made to sportsmen of Montana in view of the coming pheasant season when there will be thousands of hunters afield.

A few don'ts to be observed:

"Do not shoot toward grazing livestock, buildings or persons.

"Do not disregard 'No Trespass' signs.

"Do not leave gates open or tear down fences.

"Do not destroy winter grain crops.

"Do not leave campsites without properly disposing of refuse and putting out fires.

"Do not forget that a word of thanks will be appreciated, or that you or some fellow sportsmen may want to hunt on the same property again."

CHINESE PHEASANTS

UPLAND birds are becoming more scarce each year in practically all states. A great many states already have an abundance of Chinese pheasants and the hunters are continuing to enjoy the popular sport of shooting upland birds. Montana has vast areas suitable for these birds and the propagation of them should be seriously considered and undertaken by every sportsmen's club in these areas.

Less than a year ago the State Game Farm was started at Warm Springs. Practically 6,000 birds have been liberated the first year throughout the state. The State Fish and Game Commission and the management are to be highly commended for this wonderful work. The game farm is being enlarged and the output should be larger in 1931.

A Fantasy

Toil up, up, up, with the wild pack string,
 To the top o' the top o' the world.
 Where the trail ends high and the twilight's grey
 On the rocks of the west wind's throne;
 Where there are no troubles or worries to fret,
 No rivers or oceans to span;
 Where there's silence, and wonder, and the mystery of God,
 Where a man is no more than a man.
 Where there's mountains, and ranges, and bridges no end,
 With forests and valleys below;
 Where there's power, and beauty, and lonesomeness, too—
 In the land that a few men know.

TOOLE COUNTY HAS ACTIVE CLUB

THE Toole County Sportsmen's Association has been organized with J. P. Gerlough president, W. Ray Walker vice-president and G. R. Smith secretary and treasurer. They have a membership of 206 and much can be expected from this group of sportsmen. They are interested in the planting of fish and pheasants and fully realize the need of more protection for wild life.

TWO CLUBS JOIN ASSOCIATION

THE Valier Rod and Gun Club has joined the Association. They have a very active club and are interested in many problems confronting sportsmen. L. M. Johnson is president, H. E. Wilkenson vice-president and John M. Newell is secretary and treasurer. Mr. Newell is on the job handling the affairs of the club and assisting the Association whenever possible. They are now interested in making Lake Francis a bird refuge.

The Libby Rod and Gun Club also joined the Association with a membership of 162. W. E. Dexter is president, J. K. Dwinelle vice-president and Mr. Malcom is secretary and treasurer. They recently assisted in locating a state fish hatchery on a new site and are interested in the liberation of elk and enforcement of game laws.

With 100 such clubs as these great things can be accomplished in Montana. Both of these clubs realize the necessity of an increase in license.

CLUBS FAVOR LICENSE INCREASE

SOME time ago a questionnaire was sent to sportsmen's clubs in the state regarding an increase in our fishing and hunting license. A great many have been returned and all but three clubs favor such an increase.

ACTIVITY OF CLUBS

WE HAVE more than 100 sportsmen's clubs throughout the state. Most of the work falls upon one man and in some instances a very few members, and they are usually officers or directors. Many of the clubs meet only once a year. If meetings were held at least three and four times a year more activities could be outlined and carried to completion. In practically all instances the members are enthusiastic and willing to do their bit. We have many problems confronting us at this time if we are to conserve and propagate successfully. Practically all problems are state-wide and not only local problems, therefore more can be accomplished if we work collectively.

Meetings are generally successful at this time of year as a barbecue of elk or deer will get the members out. It is also a good time to review activities of the year and outline programs, and by having all activities well planned in advance more will be accomplished.

Many of the states delayed such activities until most of their wild life was depleted. In practically every instance it has cost huge sums for propagation and during such period the sportsmen have been deprived of their sport by closed seasons and smaller bag limits. In order to maintain our wild life it is necessary that every sportsman give but a little in both money and time. It offers the greatest pleasure for the least money and effort that we have.

REST DAYS FOR WATERFOWL

MANY states have one or two days of each week set aside as rest days for migratory waterfowl. This plan possibly originated with some of the private shooting clubs that found this plan very successful. The states now having such a law report that it is advantageous. These rest days are generally between Tuesday and Friday and sportsmen are not deprived of their favorite shooting days. It might be well if such a plan was worked out for Montana.

DIRECTORS HOLD MEETING

THE directors of the Association met at Billings November 19. This was a very busy session as matters to be brought before the next legislative session were outlined and the program for 1931 laid out. A much larger and more active program will be undertaken for the coming year, and it is hoped that with the assistance of the many sportsmen's clubs throughout the state problems can be overcome and on December 31, 1931, it can be said that it was a good job well done.

The Dude Ranchers' Association held their annual meeting at Billings November 17 to 19.