CONSERVATIONIST

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Number 5

HISTORIC MONUMENTS IN EASTERN IOWA

CAMPING IN STATE **PARKS**

By Ray Mitchell Superintendent of Parks

Three types of camping are permitted in state recreation areas; namely, tent and trailer, cabin and organized group camping. Facilities for tent and trailer camping have not been highly developed as their use has not been heavy. Cabin camping by individual family groups has been extremely popular, and facilities provided have proved to be inadequate. Organized group camping is becoming more popular each year.

All reservations should be made with the custodian in charge of the area, and all correspondence should be addressed to him. For instance, in securing information from Backbone State Park you should address your letter as follows: Park Custodian, Backbone State Park, Strawberry Point. Iowa.

Listed below are the statutes under which camping is permitted in each area, and facilities available, their cost and other pertinent information pertaining to their usage.

Camping in state areas is permitted in accordance with the following sections of the 1950 Code of Iowa:

Section 111.47 Camping. "The Commission is hereby authorized to fix fees for camping and other special privileges which shall be in such amounts as may be determined by the commission upon a basis of the cost of providing and reasonable value of such privileges."

Section 111.48 Camping areas. "No person shall camp in any portion of a state park or preserve except in portions prescribed or designated by the commission."

Section 111.49 Time limit. "No person shall be permitted to camp for a period longer than that designated by the commission for the specific state park or preserve, and

(Continued on page 36)



Plum Grove at Iowa City was the home of Iowa's first territorial governor, Robert Lucas. It has been restored to its original condition by the Conservation Commission and is maintained as a historic monument.

GEOLOGY OF PINE LAKE REGION

By Charles S. Gwynne Associate Professor, Department of Geology Iowa State College

Some ten or twelve thousand years ago, if one could have been where Pine Lake State Park is, one would have found it a mighty chilly place. For right across the Iowa River, which flows along the west side of the park for about a mile, stood the margin of the last glacier to invade Iowa. This was the glacier which the geologists have called the Mankato, from the town in Minnesota of that name.

The Mankato glacier extended in the form of a lobe as far south as Des Moines. Like the earlier glaciers which covered Iowa, it brought with it from the north a great quantity of clay, silt, sand, and small and large stones. All of this material was left as a deposit, 50 feet or more in thickness, over the area the glacier had occupied. Along the margin of the ice this

material, called drift, piled up to a thickness of as much as 150 or 200 feet. That was because the ice was melting, and at the same time the ice behind the front was creeping forward. The forward motion was balanced by the melting.

river from the park, is built upon this terminal moraine, as it is called. The terminal moraine extends all around the margin of the opened a one-room log building as deposit left by the Mankato glacier. It is a belt, a few miles wide, of rolling, hilly country. The slopes are steeper than over the interior of the drift deposit.

The park, a few miles east of Eldora in Hardin County, lies in the area of an earlier glacier, called the Iowan. The drift from this glacier is covered with loess, the wind-blown silt so widespread in Iowa. Yet the evidences of glaciation and of the action of the wind are not so noticeable here. There are few glacial boulders to

(Continued on page 39)

By Robert Killen District Park Supervisor

"The early struggles of a people in their government, development and culture has always proved interesting to those generations following, who reap the benefits of their forebearers." This quotation is credited to Carlson, the historian, in justifying the setting aside of buildings, tracts of land, etc., as historical monuments. He further said, "Such places serve to remind the people of the wonderful heritage they possess; and that from humble beginnings and primitive accommodations our present culture and civilization grew."

The State Conservation Commission in maintaining historical monuments has provided the people of Iowa with several reminders of the early development of their state. Three of these are located in the eastern portion of the state. They are representative of the early efforts to bring order, government, education, and culture into the wilderness. They are Galland School, Plum Grove, and Ft. Atkinson.

Galland School

Galland School was the first school founded in the territory which was to become the state of Iowa, Dr. Isaac Galland came with his family to the territory in 1829, saw the children of the settlers growing up without even the ad-The town of Eldora, across the vantage of basic education. Being an educated man he set about to establish a school, and in the fall of 1830 he hired a teacher and a school. The new school was near the present town of Montrose. The original site is now covered by 15 to 20 feet of water resulting from the building of the Keokuk Dam. Today a replica of the building stands on the hillside above the original location, and although impossible to preserve in fact, it is preserved in spirit, for posterity.

Plum Grove

Plum Grove in Iowa City was the home of Iowa's first Territorial Governor. Robert Lucas, a veteran of the War of 1812, and a for-

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BAIT FOR CARP FISHING

It has been noted that more people are becoming interested in fishing than ever before. Many of the older fishermen who have always been interested in game fish only are beginning to take an interest in carp fishing.

This has brought up the question many times: "What is the best carp bait?" This is a difficult question to answer, as there are many different mixtures for doughballs; in fact, it would run into the hundreds if all "favorite" formulas were known and most of them are good at given times of fishing. There are also several commercial baits on the market that are very good.

When but a sprout, at which time this writer's fishing days started on the Iowa River at Alden, located in Hardin County, the carp made its appearance in that section. At first all the fishermen were excited about the new fish that had appeared and that put up such a good scrap, and naturally

favorite baits were much sought after.

During the intervening years a good many baits, both homemade and commercial, have been used to fish for carp. The best bait for spring where the water is cold has proved to be the lowly angleworm. We always figured when the June rises came, it was time to switch to doughballs, sweet corn or boiled potatoes, which were the favorite baits in those days when carp fishing was new. They are all good baits for carp if you can keep away from the catfish, as fiddlers are also very fond of these baits.

As the years have rolled by and each one brought on a little greater degree of laziness, as well as avoirdupois, it became natural to look around for something easy and quick to get in the bait line. Fresh bread kneaded into doughballs proved very satisfactory and easily obtainable at all times. On trying the different kinds of bread, it seemed that about the best luck was had with Colonial cracked wheat bread. It was discovered three years ago that if a little peanut butter was spread on each slice before kneading it into doughballs that the carp would take the bait more readily.

When adding peanut butter to bread, it will be noted that it makes it a little too dry and the bait will not stay on the hook. To remedy this, dip the fingers in the water and add a few drops, repeating until you have the right consistency. A mistake that too many carp fishermen make is using too large a hook and too large a bait, and in most cases too large a sinker. This . . . a whole page could be written about, so the best way is trial and error until one gets the right technique for the amount of current being fished in and the size of line used. A doughball about the size of a navy bean is plenty large when fishing for carp and should be used on a small hook. -Victor Record.



Many fishermen who have always been interested in game fish only, are beginning to take an active interest in carp fishing.



An experiment with a chemical repellent is being conducted in the Josh Higgins Park area that may halt crop damage by the deer herd concentrated there.

BIOLOGISTS TO TEST DEER REPELLENT

Biologists of the Iowa Conservation Commission will cooperate with the Wyth Realty Company, Cedar Falls, in an experiment with a new type chemical that may halt crop damage by the deer herd concentrated in the Josh Higgins Park area.

Robert Wyth, president of the Viking Pump Company, is responsible for the experiment and in announcing the plans he gave some idea of how serious crop damage by deer can be.

The tests with the new chemical are going to be made on a farm owned by the Wyth Realty Company. It adjoins Josh Higgins Park and is located directly south of the Municipal airport. It is being farmed at the present time by Henry Thies.

Incidentally, Thies estimates that 225 deer were congregated on the lower end of this farm about March 1.

Here is what Wyth says about crop damage:

"A couple of years ago we attempted to raise 11 acres of beans down in the lower part of this farm, but the deer ate the tops off. As a result, we had nothing to show for our efforts. Last year we planted alfalfa. The way the alfalfa grew, there was enough for the deer and enough for us—so everyone was happy.

"This year we would like to try raising beans because it is a bit more profitable."

Wyth got the tip on deer repellents from the Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin.

This year, the tenant will plant eight acres of soybeans in the lower part of the farm where most of the deer congregate. Six acres will be sprayed with the repellent and the remaining two will remain unsprayed. In this way Wyth, Thies and Conservation Commission biologists expect to be able to judge the effectiveness of the repellent.

Manufacturers of the repellent claim it will protect crops from damage by both deer and rabbits. They claim it will not damage trees or plants and is non-injurious to the animals themselves.

Despite the test being made with the repellent, Wyth says, "It is felt by all of us the only way we will ever be able to control the deer will be to eliminate a good share of them with a controlled hunting season."—Game Bag, by Bill Severin, Waterloo Courier.

LAST MONTH

In the April issue of the CON-SERVATIONIST two items brought a great deal of reader response.

The first was an error in one of the fillers. It was "A wild goose has been photographed at an estimated height of 9,000 feet—almost 5½ miles high." The 5½ miles high was correct. The other figure should have been 29,000 feet.

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The second item had to do with the use of anise oil in one of Curly Sharp's recipes for catfish bait. Many people believed that the use of anise oil was illegal in baits. The use of flavoring in baits is not prohibited under the law. Many baits contain anise oil, various flavoring extracts, asafetida, etc. The statutes do prohibit use of poisons or stupefying substances in taking fish.

COYOTE FOOD

Some sort of record has been established by a coyote shot by Don Williams near Ethel, in Macon County, Missouri. Leroy Korschgen, food habits biologist for the Conservation Commission, said that in studies of well over 600 coyote stomachs he never found one with so many mice. This coyote had 28 in his stomach, 23 of which were meadow mice and five were lemmings.

The coyote, a male, apparently had just eaten, for only two mice showed signs of being partially digested. The stomach contents totaled almost two pounds.

"Without complete tabulation of my data," Korschgen said, "I'd hesitate to say definitely, but my impression is that the food habits of these predators has shifted in the past couple of years with the rise in rodent populations in Missouri. Predators would naturally take whatever is most abundant."

-Missouri Conservationist.



Some 150 Boy Scouts helped plant walnuts at Rock Creek Lake and most of them camped out Saturday night in order to have an early start on Sunday. These Newton Scouts, from left to right; John Elliott, Roland Wilson, David Jones, Jimmy Gass and Bob Stevens.

THIRTY THOUSAND NEW WALNUT TREES FOR ROCK CREEK LAKE

By Philip Surney City Editor, Newton Daily News

If Rock Creek Lake's first community project is sign-pointer, that new artificial lake and recreation area is really going places.

On Sunday, April 20, some 300 conservation - minded persons showed up at the lake site 10 miles northeast of Newton and planted 30,000 walnuts. Spark-plugging the project was Newton's Emerson Hough Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, strong supporters of the project ever since their Jim Vorhies got it in his head five or six years ago that Rock Creek was a good place for a lake.

The volunteer workers came from Jasper, Poweshiek, and Marshall counties. Prominent among them-both in numbers and work

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Newton News Photo.

Members of the Newton Izaak Walton League put their talents to good use at Rock Creek Lake walnut planting. Bill Duckstein, on the business end of the shovel, and Ed Phillips, ready to plant a stratified walnut.

-were 150 Boy Scouts from the three counties.

A considerable number of Scout units camped out on the east side of the lake site Saturday night so they'd have an early start Sunday.

Their campfires dotted over the hillsides that night were an inspiring thing to see, and they made one realize the importance of a lake and a park like this one to the youth of the area.

There were 4-H youths working too, as well as members of the Ike chapters in the area. The Newton Ikes had a headquarter and refreshment tent on the east side where the work centered.

Robert Wormley, Newton, district Ike's director, was the chairman in charge of lining up the workers. Conservation Commission men were in charge of the planting and had their trucks on hand to haul the volunteers to four major areas where the walnuts were planted.

Directly overseeing the planting was Gene Hertel, Adel, district forester with the Commission, and working with him was Harold L. Borwick, Grinnell, conservationist who is in charge of the lake area.

Borwick had the job of treating the walnuts, many of which were donated from this area, during the winter. He stratified 80,000 walnuts, and many of them were showing sprouts when they were planted.

A good share of the remaining 50,000 also will be planted this spring. By next year, the seedlings should be about two feet

Hertel told the workers that they were doing the same job squirrels would do in a walnut area. The men and boys planted the nuts from one to three inches deep. In the heavily sodded areas, they removed a shovelful of sod so the sprouts could get out easier and so that the shovel holes would hold water.

Walnuts were planted in gently sloping areas on both the east and west sides of the lake. They will provide both beauty and shade and will do their part in holding the soil when they reach maturity.

Noteworthy at "operation walnut" was the fact that the project brought out hundreds of cars of spectators to the lake whose interest had been whetted by newspaper publicity on the walnut planting.

The observation point and parking area on the high bluff at the west edge of the lake's big earth dam was loaded with cars and spectators — who were taking plenty of pictures-during the afternoon and evening.

Succeeding nice Sundays have seen the streams of cars continuing to the lake site, and it doesn't take much imagining to see that Rock Creek Lake is going to be a it really gets going.

"Operation walnut" just got the door open.

THE FLOOD PLAINS

After every bad flood, along with the heart-breaking task of cleaning up the stench and repairing or rebuilding on whatever scale you can afford, comes a barrage of Itold-you-so's. The Army engineers, the valley authority people, the conservationists, the levee men and the channel dredgers all have their say, till the air is blue with contradictions. Most dogmatic of all-and least welcome-are those who say nobody ever gets flooded unless he is rash enough to build a home or business in the natural flood plains of rivers.

The irritating thing about this last told-you-so is that it is true. In fact, it is a truism, because that it what a flood plain is-a place that floods occasionally, or has flooded.

But to a person who has lost heavily from a flood, but still has property worth salvaging-if only the site—that isn't very helpful. And in some river valleys the flood plains spread out for many miles. A site that is likely to be flooded only once every 50 years or so, and then only if the levees break, is not going to be abandoned on the basis of a geologist's aeon-striding truism.

On the other hand, we are foolish to build on spots that are likely to be flooded every few years-or to rebuild. We are foolish to perpetuate attitudes toward river frontage that stem from the days when rivers were our sole easy routes for long-distance freight and travel.

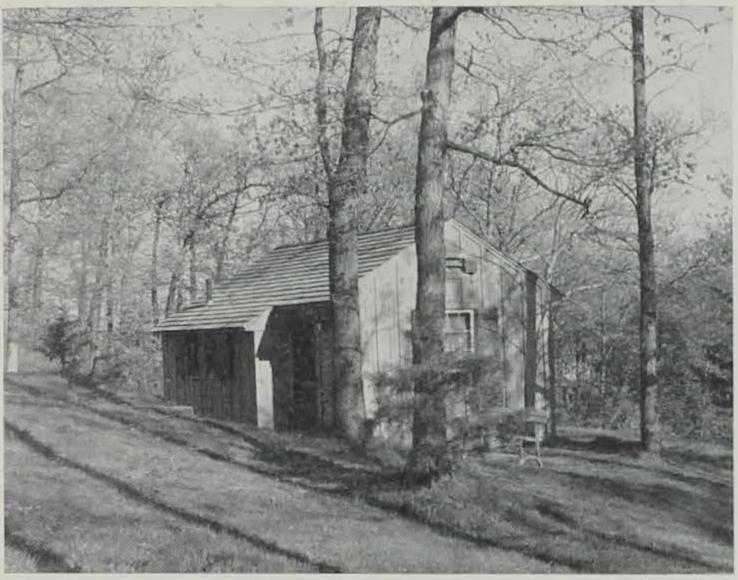
In Des Moines, city plans since 1925 have sought to discourage building in the flood plains of the Des Moines, the Raccoon, and Four Mile Creek. The planners have well attended recreation area when never succeeded in making their recommendations stick, however, and we have a good many homes located in some parts of them. We would have more if the city health department hadn't succeeded in condemning some and preventing others because of contaminated wells and other health nuisances.

> Des Moines is luckier than many river cities in having plenty of ground high enough to escape floods, without being as steep, say, as the Missouri River bluffs at Council Bluffs or the Mississippi's banks at Dubuque.-Des Moines Tribune, April 22, 1952.

The fox squirrels so common in town and woods are often incorrectly called "red squirrels."



After every bad flood, along with the heart-breaking task of cleaning up the stench and repairing or rebuilding on whatever scale you can afford, comes a barrage of I-told-you-so's.



Address

Several of lowa's state parks have modern cabins for rent. The cabins accommodate four comfortably and the renter must provide his own bedding, pillows and linens. They are equipped with all other necessary facilities.

Camping . . .

Area

(Continued from page 33) in no event longer than for a period of two weeks."

Section 111.50 Registering varegister his or her name and ad- mits for cause."

dress with the park custodian and advise the custodian when the camp is vacated."

Section 111.51 Camping refused. "Custodians are given authority to cating. "Any person who camps refuse camping privileges and to in any state park or preserve shall rescind any and all camping per-

TENT AND TRAILER CAMPING

In accordance with the provisions of Section 111.47, the Commission has fixed the fees for tent and trailer camping as follows:

\$2.50 per week per camping unit

10c per person per night 50c per night per camping unit The method of computing charges is to be used which gives the lowest charge to the camper. A camping unit is one tent or one trailer. The 10c per person rate will not apply to other than organized groups.

Listed below are the areas in which tent and trailer camping is permitted. Facilities furnished are tent space, firewood, water, and sanitary facilities. In those areas marked by an asterisk (*), over-night camping only is permitted.

County

Custodian

Daolthona	Dolomoro	I I Cohmidt	Strawberry
Backbone	Delaware	elaware L. J. Schmidt	
*Bellevue	Jackson	Charles Hagen	Bellevue
Black Hawk	Sac	L. D. Wright	Lake View
A. A. Call	Kossuth	Harold Knoop	Algona
Clear Lake	Cerro Gordo	Harold Cole	Clear Lake
Dolliver Memorial	Webster	J. A. Babcock	Lehigh
Ft. Defiance	Emmet	Harold Morgan	Estherville
Geode	Henry, Des Moines	Vernard Haufle	Danville, R.
*Gull Point	Dickinson	O. L. Fulton	Milford
Lacey-Keosauqua	Van Buren	Howard Coon	Keosauqua
Lake Ahquabi	Warren	W. E. Myers	Indianola
Lake Darling	Washington	Joe Etzen	Brighton
Lake Keomah	Mahaska	W. F. Partridge	Oskaloosa
Lake Wapello	Davis	J. W. Brill	Drakesville
Ledges	Boone	M. L. Jones	Boone
*Maquoketa Caves	Jackson	J. H. Barnd	Maquoketa
Oak Grove	Sioux	Donald Cole	Hawarden
Oakland Mills	Henry	R. E. Sloan	Mt. Pleasant
Orleans Hatchery	Dickinson	Fay Fronk	Spirit Lake
Palisades-Kepler	Linn	C. F. Meyer	Mt. Vernon
Pammel	Madison		Winterset
Pilot Knob	Hancock	Dayle Wilson	Forest City
Pine Lake	Hardin	D, V, Hicks	Eldora
Red Haw Hill	Lucas	Robert Jack	Chariton
Springbrook	Guthrie	Harold Carter	Guthrie Cente
Stone	Woodbury	H. N. Anderson	Sioux City, R.:
Lake of Three Fires	Taylor	Raymond Turner	Bedford
Walnut Woods	Polk	Warren Jackson	W.Des Moine
Wapsipinicon	Jones	Adam S. Kohl	Anamosa
Wild Cat Den	Muscatine	H. J. Ripperger	Muscatine
Waubonsie	Fremont	Lynn Johnson	Hamburg
All reservations mu	ist be made th	rough the park cus	todian.
	ist be made th		todian.

(Continued on page 38)

MORE FISH NOW?

Robert Cleary of Independence, Iowa, biologist for the Iowa Conservation Commission, frequently starts hot arguments among fishermen by declaring that there are about as many fish in streams now as there were 100 years ago.

He backs the statement up with some logical arguments, too.

Now Minnesota biologists come up with the same theory. The April bulletin of the Minnesota Department of Conservation says:

"In our good fishing lakes there are probably as many fish today as when Hiawatha fished with his cedar line."

We are not going to get into an argument with the experts, but we are sure going to try fishing with a "cedar line" the next trip to Minnesota.—Bill Severin, Waterloo Courier.

STRIP PITS FOR FISHING

Iowa fishermen can look forward to greater opportunities in years ahead when results are obtained from a state program now being undertaken.

Under the Federal Aid in Fisheries Restoration Act, the state is planning to develop fishing areas from several thousand acres of abandoned strip mines in southcentral and southeastern Iowa.

This land is worthless for farming because of its rough character and because the subsoil has been brought to the surface. Much of this land is covered with water which has drained into it from adjacent farm land. Others can be made into artificial lakes by construction of earth dams,

chemical content, but this problem | Bluffs Nonpareil.

is expected to decrease as the water level is raised.

Development will include raising the water level, stocking the waters with game fish, and planting trees, shrubs and grasses to hold the soil and benefit wildlife.

Illinois and Missouri have converted some of their unsightly strip mine areas into recreational assets, pointing the way for Iowa.

Although these new areas will draw little attention from north Iowa anglers, they will benefit local fishermen by taking some of the fishing pressure from existing lakes and streams in this part of the state.—Lake Mills Graphic.

MRS. HANNAN APPOINTED TO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Appointment of Mrs. Emmett Hannan, 219 North Second Street, Council Bluffs, to the Iowa Conservation Commission was announced recently by Governor William S. Beardsley at Des Moines.

Mrs. Hannan succeeds Mrs. Emmett Ryan, Underwood farm wife, who resigned Tuesday.

"I feel highly honored," Mrs. Hannan said when informed of her appointment. "I certainly will do my very best and put my heart in it. I will enjoy it very much."

Mrs. Hannan, 46, is associated with her husband in the operation of the Franklin Printing Company at 28 Fourth Street. She has been active in conservation work for many years.

She will serve out an unexpired term ending June 30, 1955. Members of the seven-member Commis-Water in some of these areas sion are paid only for their days will not support fish life, due to its worked and expenses. - Council

MOM'S GOIN' FISHIN'

It's a changing world . . . the other evening a bright young teenager stopped me on the street and said, "Mom and a couple of the other ladies in her crowd have been out looking for nightcrawlers . . . they're gonna go fishin' this week." There was all the pride of ownership in that kid's eyes you could imagine . . . he was getting the greatest charge over the fact that

his Mom was going fishing. That's something . . . and Dad . . . you had better look to your laurels . . . for there was a day and it was not so long ago . . . when you were the head man when it came to hunting, fishing and the allied outdoor sports. Yet, it's a changing world . . . and if the aforementioned is the change, we'd say it was all for the better! Mom's going fishin'!-John Garwood, Marshalltown Times Republican.



It's a changing world and sport fishing has become a pastime for the entire family.

We think that even Izaak Walton would be pleased with this change.

SUPPLEMENT TO IOWA CONSERVATIONIST, MAY 1952

CHECK LIST OF IOWA BIRDS

By Jack Musgrove Museum Director

State Department of History and Archives

The following is a list of birds that to date have been recorded for the state of Iowa. All are represented by specimens. It is a generally accepted rule that no species of birds shall be admitted to a state list unless a specimen has been taken and is either preserved in some collection or has been critically examined by a competent ornithologist.

The species are listed with their scientific name according to the nomenclature from the fourth edition of the A.O.U. Check-List and supplements to this check-list that have been made in recent years.

On this list the status is simply the over-all picture of the species in this state. Some listed as migrant may remain throughout the year; some listed as migrant may also nest in the state in small numbers. In this paper the status is meant only to give the over-all concept of the species in this area.

The last list for birds in the State of Iowa was published in 1934 as a Revised List of Iowa Birds by Philip A. DuMont. Since that time numerous changes have been made in the classifications of birds and several new species have been added to the state list.

The purpose of this paper is to make available a complete list of the birds of Iowa and to give the relative abundance of each species.

LEGEND FOR BIRD STATUS

A-Accidental C-Common E-Extinct R-Rare CM-Common migrant IS-Introduced specie PE-Probably extinct PR-Permanent resident RM-Rare migrant RR-Rare resident RV-Rare visitor UM-Uncommon migrant UR-Uncommon resident VR-Very rare WV-Winter visitor APR-Abundant permanent resident ASR—Abundant summer resident CPR-Common permanent resident CSR-Common summer resident CWR-Common winter resident

CWV-Common winter visitor RPR-Rare permanent resident RSR-Rare summer resident RSV-Rare summer visitor RWM-Rare winter migrant RWV-Rare winter visitor USR-Uncommon summer resident UWV-Uncommon winter visitor AMSR-Abundant migrant and summer CMSR-Common migrant and summer resident ISCR-Introduced species-common resident RMSR-Rare migrant and summer resident UMSR-Uncommon migrant and summer resident AMCWR-Abundant migrant and common winter resident

WMRPR-Winter migrant and rare perma-

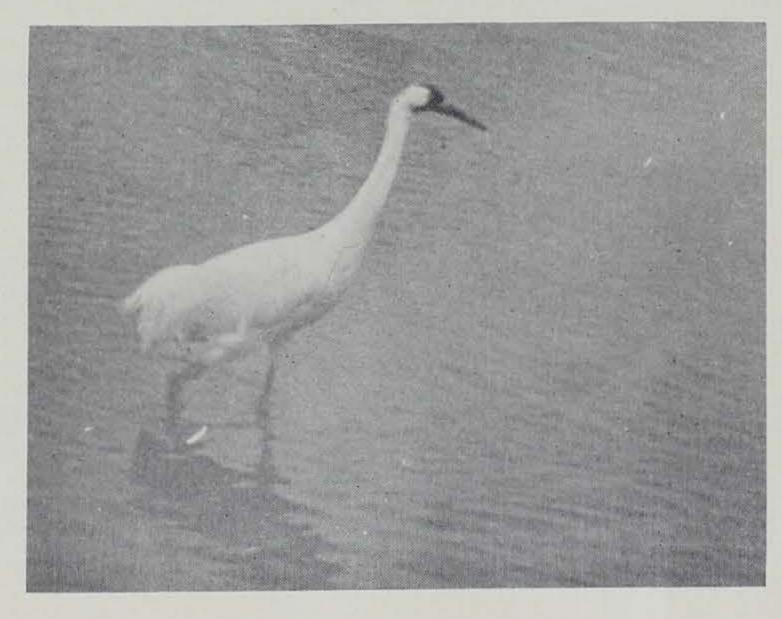
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IOWA BIRDS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Lesser Loon	Gavia immer immer (Brunnich)	
Horned Grebe	Colymbus auritus Linnaeus	U.M. n)U.M. R.MC.S.R.
Double-crested Cormorant Water-Turkey	Pelecanus occidentalis carolinensis GmelinPhalacrocorax auritus auritus (Lesson)Anhinga anhinga leucogaster (Vieillot)Fregata magnificens rothschildi MathewsArdea herodias herodias Linnaeus	
American Egret	Ardea herodias wardi Ridgway	

Black-crowned Night Heron
White-faced Glossy Ibis
Hutchins's Goose
Black Duck
Green-winged Teal
Redhead
American Golden-eye Bucephala clangula americana (Bonaparte) C.M. Buffle-head Bucephala albeola (Linnaeus) C.M. Old-Squaw Clangula hyemalis (Linnaeus) R.M. Western Harlequin Duck Histrionicus histrionicus pacificus Brooks A. American Eider Somateria mollissima dresseri Sharpe A.

The whooping crane, once a nester on the lowa prairies, has been extinct in this state for many years. The whooper population is now down to less than 50 individuals alive in the world. Conservationists believe that it may still be possible to build up the whooping crane population and save it from total extinction.





The magnificent whistling swan, while not a nesting bird in lowa, has become more evident during spring and fall migrations the past few years. Until recently, whistling swans were seen in singles. pairs, or trios. Groups of 20 and 30 were seen in 1951 and Conservation Officer George Kaufman reports a single flock of 94 individuals he saw resting on the Mississippi River near Lansing in early April of this year.

> waging a losing fight to maintain its numbers within the United

King Eider	
Hooded MerganserLophodytes cucullatus (Linnaeus)C.M.American MerganserMergus merganser americanus CassinC.M.Red-breasted MerganserMergus serrator serratorU.M.Turkey VultureCathartes aura septentrionalis WiedC.S.R.Black VultureCoragyps atratus atratus (Meyer)A.	
Swallow-tailed Kite	
Eastern Red-tailed HawkButeo jamaicensis borealis (Gmelin)P.R Krider's HawkButeo jamaicensis kriderii HoopesU.R Western Red-tailed HawkButeo jamaicensis calurus CassinC.M Harlan's HawkButeo harlani (Audubon)U.M Northern Red-shouldered HawkButeo lineatus lineatus (Gmelin)	The state of the s
Broad-winged Hawk	
Golden Eagle	
Prairie Falcon	I.
Eastern Susarrow Hamb re-	No.
Eastern Bob-white	

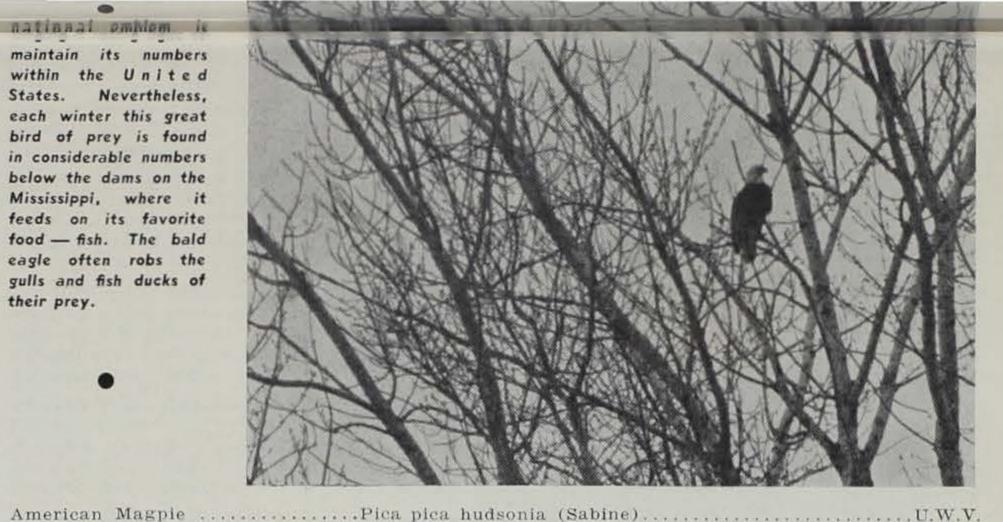
Brunnish's Murre	4000400040
Louisiana Paroquet	100
Eastern Screech OwlOtus asio naevius (Gmelin)	TOTAL SOLUTION
Snowy Owl	
Short-eared Owl	-
Sennett's Nighthawk	
Red-shafted Flicker Colaptes cafer collaris Vigors	Section and
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Sphyrapicus varius varius (Linnaeus) C.M Eastern Hairy Woodpecker Dendrocopos villosus villosus (Linnaeus) C.R Northern Downy Woodpecker Dendrocopos pubescens medianus (Swainson) C.R Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker Picoides arcticus (Swainson) R.V Eastern Kingbird Tyrannus tyrannus (Linnaeus) C.S.R	THE STREET
Arkansas Kingbird	Total Section 1
Acadian Flycatcher Empidonax virescens (Vieillot) U.S.R. Alder Flycatcher Empidonax trailli trailli (Audubon) C.S.R. Least Flycatcher Empidonax minimus (Baird and Baird) C.S.R. Eastern Wood Peewee Cantopus virens (Linnaeus) C.S.R. Olive-sided Pewee Nuttallornis borealis Swainson U.M.	
Hoyt's Horned LarkEremophila alpestris hoyti BishopC.W.R Northern Horned LarkEremophila alpestris alpestris (Linnaeus)U.W.R Prairie Horned LarkEremophila alpestris praticola HenshawC.S.R Tree SwallowIridoprocne bicolor (Vieillot)	
Rough-winged Swallow	1
THE SAME AND AND A STREET THE SAME AND A STREET AND A STR	



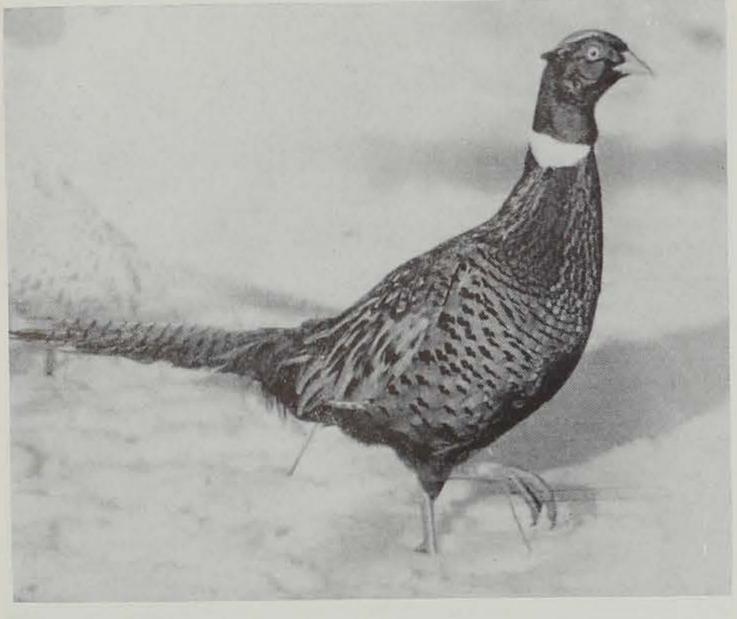
AMERICAN PROPERTY AND	The state of the s
Ring-necked Pheasant Eastern Turkey Whooping Crane	Colinus virginianus virginianus (Linnaeus)
King Rail	Grus canadensis tabida (Peters)
Florida Gallinule	Laterallus jamaicensis pygmaeus (Blackwall)R.MGallinula chloropus cachinnans Bangs,
Killdeer American Golden Plover Black-bellied Plover	Charadrius hiaticula semipalmatus Bonaparte
Wilson's Snipe Long-billed Curlew Hudsonian Curlew	Philohela minor (Gmelin)
Spotted Sandpiper Eastern Solitary Sandpiper Western Willet	Bartramia longicauda (Bechstein)
American Knot Pectoral Sandpiper White-rumped Sandpiper	Totanus flavipes (Gmelin)
Red-backed Sandpiper Eastern Dowitcher Long-billed Dowitcher	Erolia minutilla (Vieillot)
Western Sandpiper Buff-breasted Sandpiper Marbled Godwit	Ereunetes pusillus (Linnaeus)
Ruff	Crocethia alba (Pallas)
Parasitic Jaeger	Larus hyperboreus hyperboreus Gunnerus
Franklin's Gull	Larus delawarensis Ord
Common Tern	Sterna forsteri Nuttall

Western Phoen Hawk.

national emillem is maintain its numbers within the United States. Nevertheless, each winter this great bird of prey is found in considerable numbers below the dams on the Mississippi, where it feeds on its favorite food - fish. The bald eagle often robs the gulls and fish ducks of their prey.



American Magpie
Long-tailed Chickadee
Brown Creeper
Prairie Marsh Wren
Brown Thrasher
Olive-backed Thrush
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Bohemian WaxwingBombycilla garrulus pallidiceps ReichenowU.M. Cedar WaxwingBombycilla cedrorum VieillotC.M.S.R. Northern ShrikeLanius borealis borealis VieillotU.W.V. Northwestern ShrikeLanius borealis invictus Grinnell
Starling



The ringneck pheasant has become a thoroughly naturalized citizen and is as much a part of the landscape as any native bird. The prairie chicken, once our most abundant game bird, has failed to stand the onslaught of our agricultural civilization which the pheasant has taken in its stride.

Philadelphia Vireo	Vireo olivaceus (Linnaeus)
Golden-winged Warbler	Helmitheros vermivorus (Gmelin)
Northern Parula Warbler Eastern Yellow Warbler Magnolia Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla (Wilson) C.M. Parula americana pusilla (Wilson) U.M. Dendroica petechia petechia (Gmelin) A.S.R. Dendroica magnolia (Wilson) C.M. Dendroica tigrina (Gmelin) R.M.
Myrtle Warbler	Dendroica caerulescens caerulescens (Gmelin)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica dominica albilora Ridgway
Western Palm Warbler Oven-bird Northern Water-Thrush	Dendroica discolor (Vieillot)
Kentucky Warbler	Seiurus motacilla (Vieillot)
Hooded Warbler	. Icteria virens virens (Linnaeus)

English Sparrow
Eastern Red-wing
Rusty Blackbird Euphagus carolinus (Muller)
Scarlet Tanager
Indigo Bunting
Canadian Pine GrosbeakPinicola enucleator leucura (Muller)R.W.V. Gray-crowned Rosy FinchLeucosticte tephrocotis tephrocotis (Swainson)A. Common RedpollAcanthis linaria linaria (Linnaeus)U.W.V. Greater RedpollAcanthis linaria rostrata (Coues)R.W.V. Northern Pine SiskinSpinus pinus pinus (Wilson)
Eastern Goldfinch
Arctic Towhee
Western Grasshopper SparrowAmmodramus savannarum perpallidus (Coues)C.S.R. Leconte's SparrowPasserherbulus caudacutus (Latham)U.M. Western Henslow's SparrowPasserherbulus henslowii henslowii (Audubon)U.M. Nelson's SparrowAmmospiza caudacuta nelsoni (Allen)U.M. Eastern Vesper SparrowPooecetes gramineus gramineus (Gmelin)
Eastern Lark Sparrow
Western Tree SparrowSpizella arborea ochracea Brewster
Harris's Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Smith's Longspur

SAGA OF THE GRASS

By Faye Nixon Speer

In the beginning, ere any map was made, when the course of mighty rivers was but planned, I, the grass, was made and given strength and beauty. Strength to feed and hold the soil for ages. Clothed with emerald green for beauty. I was made keeper of moisture and the wealth brought by rain, snow, hail, sleet and leaves.

A million dawns and as many nights gave light and dark to my glimmering blades. Every breeze played with my billowing beauty. For cycles of time there was no man to see; but there was a God, the great lover of beauty. Great herds of bison bivouacked in my shelter. They were welcomed and fed from my generosity. I loved the tread of their thundering hoofs as they raced and roamed over my velvety sod. I profited from their refuse left as they roamed. For feathered friends and animals without number I was cover and den, a home secure.

The forests, too, were wardens of moisture. And we have ever worked together. We well knew that we were made for man. Had you been listening at nighttime you would have heard my roots and tree roots talking. Gladly would we give of our storied richness. That was our destiny, that was our mission. It was the great plan that we should feed and house the coming settlers. I would utter no protest when the plowshare turned under my sod of green, offer no complaint when my mass of roots met sun's exposure. It was the plan.

Homes, mills, factories, bridges were needed for the settlers we knew would come. The trees would gladly give for progress. But for neither of us was there to be a slaughter. There had been a boundary and a limit set. We had been placed as guards against the great



'Ere any map was made, when the course of mighty rivers was but planned, I, the grass, was made and given strength and beauty."

soil robbers-rivers and streams. A belt of my toughness was to be left near the section where these robbers might creep in and steal. Large areas of my soil must be forever kept for beauty. The trees were to be used wisely. Forests should forever store moisture and leaf mold.

The Settlers Came

The settlers were greedy, rapacious, never content when wegrass and trees—gave wisely. We wanted to keep the grass and the forest that were never meant to be tilled nor cut. At nighttime, as our roots met, there was lament at the slaughter. We loved man and his children. We knew the destruction man was inviting for himself and oncoming generations. Foolish the man who does not study God's great plan.

When I was completely ravished, when forests were silent and dead, the mighty robbers sent messengers to their tributaries. The lordly Mississippi began to gather in the spoils. The Missouri and the Ohio brought tons of top soil. It was then the rivers ran black with

"The mighty floods that carry out to sea his bridges, roads, homes and cattle are of

the finest silt. This should have been kept forever in storage.

Man became his own enemy; greed gained supremacy. By the slaying of his friends, grass and trees, man made his own dust bowl. Thus, he gained famine for crops and beauty. My roots say that man, the empire builder, has been given too much authority; he is allowed to make what he cannot control. The mighty floods, that carry out to sea his bridges, roads, homes and cattle, are of his own making. Trees that wanted to be his ship masts were uprooted, tearing out protection as they fell.

Man could, and did, bridge the great rivers. With boats and barge he made them serve his pleasure. But the flood conquered him at its will. Is man so proud and imperial that he refuses to learn from the grass and the tree roots?

THE HAIR FROG

By Don Shiner

The floating bass bug gave bass fly fishing its greatest boost. Aside from being an effective method of catching bass, it is also most fascinating. Even the thrill of dry fly fishing for trout can scarcely surpass the rise of a bronzeback to a surface bug.

There are many excellent bugs made in an equal amount of various patterns. Undoubtedly one of the oldest and best productive lures is the hair bug which represents a frog. It is a consistent fish getter in most waters throughout the state.

These hair frogs are made of bucktail and have either protruding hind legs or both front and hind legs. Both are equally successful. The general color effect is the belly or bottom which is white or cream, and it matters little what color the back or top is. The back or top of the lure cannot be seen by the bass as he views the bug from below. Too much emphasis is placed upon the finish of commercial lures in the floating variety. Some are dotted or speckled like a frog, others with scales or colored streaks, but this color is merely for the angler as bass can only see the lure from underneath. Therefore, it matters little in its effectiveness whether the bug is pure white, or merely a white bottom and a red, green, yellow or combination of colors on the back. However, if the surface bug is colored closely to the likeness of a frog, the angler has more faith in the bug and uses it more efficiently.

Using it properly is an important factor. If a live frog was observed swimming, it will be noticed that it propells itself by a swift shove of its long hind legs, and then glides as it draws its legs up close to its body in readiness for another shove. Use the imitation frog identically the same. After it is cast and lands on the water, allow it to pause a few seconds and then retrieve with a short, swift jerk. After the lure ends wood Opinion Tribune.



Even the thrill of dry fly fishing for trout can scarcely surpass that of a bronze back rising to a surface bug.

the glide, continue to retrieve with another short, swift jerk. The lure will respond in a "pump" and a glide much like a natural frog.

Using it at the correct and natural locations often determines the successfulness. Rarely is a frog found swimming in the middle of a lake. They only frequent the shallow, weedy water, shoreline and lily pads. Cast the artificial only at these places, and make it appear as though the frog has jumped into the water from a nearby log, weed bed or lily pad. Often if the lure is cast so that it lands on shore and then jerked into the water close by, it brings instant response.

In addition to the hair frog, some bugs representing frogs are made with wood, cork, or plastic bodies. Undoubtedly these, too, are successful; however, they do not have the near life-like motion the buck hair bugs do.

Often bass need to be teased into striking a surface bug. Generally a hair frog cast repeatedly over the same area brings a response.

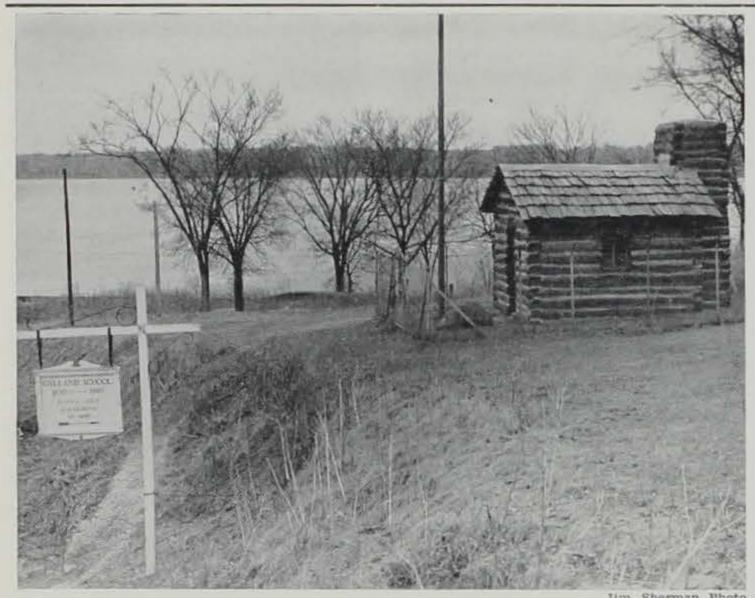
Remember, frogs are generally a steady diet for the bass, and if a few of these frog lures are among your tackle you can rest assured your day of "bassing bugging" will be successful.—Pennsylvania Angler.

DEER DROWN IN FLOOD WATERS

There were several of a herd of more than 100 deer that lost their lives over the weekend as the flooding Missouri cut many off from their path of retreat.

Several farmers and Glenwood people witnessed the animals on several occasions attempting to cross fences where flood waters were several feet high. The animals would become trapped in floating debris and attempt to climb upon it. They would finally become exhausted and sink into the water.

Conservation Officer Mineck estimates that at least several lost their lives in this manner.—Glen-



Dr. Izaak Galland established the first school in Iowa in 1830 near Montrose. The original site is now covered by water resulting from the Keokuk Dam. The replica of the school is maintained on the hillside above the original location.

Monuments . . .

(Continued from page 33)

mer governor of Ohio, was appointed Governor of the Territory of Iowa by President Van Buren in 1838. Lucas served in this capacity for three years, and decided to remain in Iowa.

In 1844 the Lucas family purchased 80 acres adjoining Iowa City which was then the capital. On this tract was built Plum Grove, where Lucas lived until his death in 1853. Four acres of this estate and the original house are maintained and open to the public. Many people have contributed furniture and accessories of the period, and in many cases authentic possessions of the Lucas family. The Colonial Dames of America in Iowa have been very helpful in selecting and arranging furnishings for the residence, as well as making many contributions.

Ft. Atkinson

Ft. Atkinson adjoining the town of Ft. Atkinson was established primarily to protect the Winnebago Indians from the war-like Sioux and the allied Sac and Fox tribes who claimed the territory given to the Winnebagos by the treaty of 1825. This treaty, signed at Prairie Du Chien, provided for their home along the Wisconsin River to a strip of land west of the Mississippi. This area comprised part of what is now the states of Iowa and Minnesota. The fort was also to protect the Indians from intrusions by white men who might wish to settle in the territory, thus Ft. Atkinson is built to protect the American Indian. Work on the post was started June 2, 1840, using funds voted by the U.S. Congress in 1839. The fort was garrisoned until February 24, 1849, when it was home in Clayton County. abandoned and later sold. Ft. Atkinson was named for Brig. Gen. Henry Atkinson, at that time Com- Independence Conservative.

mandant at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis.

"BIRDS OF AN IOWA DOORYARD"

From the presses of The Christopher Publishing House, Boston, Massachusetts, there came recently a new book, "Birds of an Iowa Dooryard," edited by Fred J. Pierce of Winthrop. The book, which will be of interest to Iowans interested in bird life and to ornithologists was compiled from over 60 notebooks, journals and papers written by the late Althea Rosina Sherman of National, Iowa.

In the 265-page book by Miss Sherman, Mr. Pierce wrote in an A editor's note: "Althea Rosina Sher- p man was an exacting observer whose painstaking accuracy is reflected in all her writings. She was meticulous in her record-keeping. Her greatest ornithological interest was the study of nesting birds and it was here that she did her most important work. Her patience seemed limitless. This is attested by the thousands of hours spent in watching at close range the nesting of birds which she found on her home acres at National, Iowa.

"It was Miss Sherman's desire to publish a book on her nesting the Winnebago tribe to move from studies. The plan to write such a book evidently came late in lifetoo late for her to complete the actual work or to outline what she wished to include in it . . . Thus this task was left to another to finish."

The book compiled from the writings of Miss Sherman contains her studies and observations on the only fort known to have been the birds of Iowa. In May of 1936 she reported after years of research that she had listed 168 species of birds and that 40 species of birds had nested near her home-in the dooryard or yard of the family

Copies of the "Birds of an Iowa Dooryard" sell for \$3.75 each.-

Camping . . .

(Continued from page 36)

ORGANIZED GROUP CAMPING

Location of facilitie	es for organized	d group use are as	follows:
Area	County	Custodian	Address
Lake Ahquabi	Warren	W. E. Myers	Indianola
Dolliver Memorial	Webster	J. A. Babcock	Lehigh
Springbrook	Guthrie	Harold Carter	Guthrie Center
Cabing outs matte	aggag magg hall	canitary facilities	and water are

Cabins, cots, mattresses, mess hall, sanitary facilities and water are furnished. Cook stoves, ice boxes, water heaters installed. Limited kitchen equipment furnished, including dishes and other required cooking utensils. Renter must furnish own cooks and kitchen help.

Charges-for use of building and equipment-25c per day per person. Any additional service or facility at actual cost to the state. Actual cost of replacement to be charged for any breakage or damage to property other than ordinary wear.

MINI-WAKAN-located at north end of Spirit Lake. O. L. Fulton, Milford, Iowa, custodian.

> Mess hall, building only, not completed. Usable only for small groups who can furnish everything. Additional charge of 15c per person per week.

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All reservations to be made with individual in charge of the area, and not through the central office.

OVERNIGHT AND MODERN CABINS

Area	County	No. of Cabins	Custodian	Address
Ledges	Boone	2	M. L. Jones	Boone
Pine Lake	Hardin	5	D. V. Hicks	Eldora
Lake Ahquabi	Warren	9	W. E. Myers	Indianola
Dolliver Memor.	Webster	2	J. A. Babcock	Lehigh
		RATES	4	

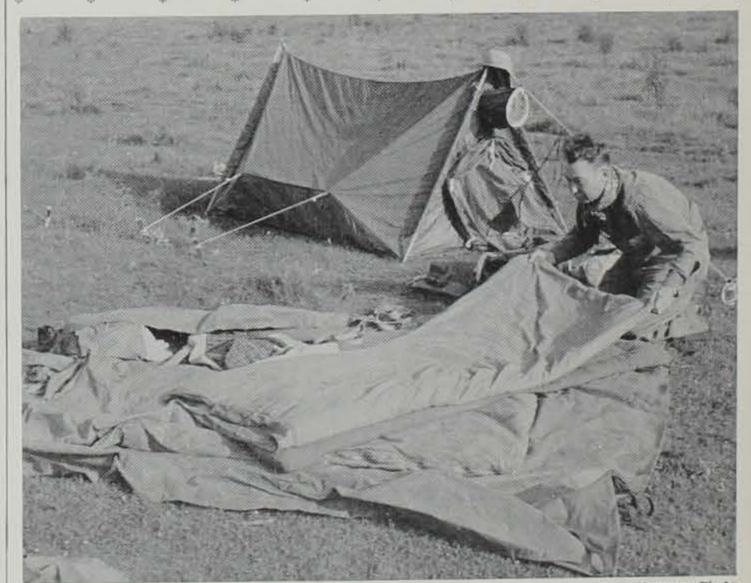
Daily Rates\$ 3.75 per cabin Weekly Rates 20.00 per cabin

		No. of			
Area	County	Cabins	Custodian	Address	
Backbone	Delaware	are 18 L. J. Schmidt		Strawberry Point	
Lake Wapello	Davis	12	J. W. Brill	Drakesville	
Springbrook	Guthrie	6	Harold Carter	Guthrie Center	
Lk. of Three Fires	Taylor	6	Raymond Turner	Bedford	
Lacey-Keosauqua	Van Buren	6	Howard Coon	Keosauqua	
		RATES	1		

Daily Rates\$ 4.50 per cabin Weekly Rates 25.00 per cabin

		10. 01				
rea	County	Cabins	Custodia	n	Address	
Palisades-Kepler	Linn	4	C. F. Me	yer	Mt. Vern	on
Special rates fo	or cabins at	Palisades	s-Kepler S	state Pa	rk:	
Stone cabin						
					er week	
The Club F	House (acco	mmodates	18)	9.00 p	er day	
10000 00000 0					er week	
Lower floor	only (base	ement)		4.00 p	er day	
Kitchen an					er day	

(Continued on next page



Tent and trailer camping is permitted in 30 of lowa's state parks. Firewood, water and sanitary facilities are available.

Any fraction of a week will be charged on the daily rate basis. For example, if a cabin is rented for 9 days, a week (7 days) will be charged on the weekly rate basis and the extra two days will be charged on the daily rate basis.

Rates for a maximum of four persons. Additional charge for all over four persons at 25c per person per day.

Actual cost of replacement to be charged for any breakage or damage to property other than ordinary wear.

Cabins accommodate four comfortably. Renter must provide own bedding, pillows and linens. The rental of cabins does not entitle tenant to free use of the beach or boating privileges. Where those facilities are available arrangements may be made with the concessionaire. Electricity is included in the cabin rates with the exception of 25c meter charge on refrigerator for each 24-hour period.

The following priorities are in effect on the rental of the cabins:

1. One week reservation.

2. Two week reservations. All reservations to be made through the area custodian.

A \$5.00 deposit per cabin is required upon reservation, which may be retained to cover excess breakage and damage to cabin, or for cleaning in event the cabin is not released in a satisfactory condition.

Pine Lake . . .

(Continued from page 33)

be seen, and exposure of the drift or of the loess are few.

The big feature, of course, is the lake. This is an artificial lake, made by placing a dam across a tributary of the Iowa River. Originally, when the dam was placed in 1922, the lake had a length of about a mile and a half. Then erosion took over. Sediment from the incoming stream shortened the lake by filling in the upper end. The loess was easily eroded. So a second dam was built, principally to hold back the sediment. Thus, there are now two lakes, a lower and an upper, with a stretch of marshy land in between.

Although few glacial boulders are to be seen in Pine Lake State Park, there is still plenty of rock around, with its geological story. Sandstone outcrops along the road leading into the park from the south and also along the road above the dam. Some of the ravines expose it, and weathered exposures occur along the lake shore on the east side. Fragments are scattered all over the hillside along

the river, and form a narrow beach on the east side of the lake.

This sandstone was quarried and used in the construction of park building. Also, it was used in great quantity in the laying out of the trail along the lake. Bridge piers were made of it. Walls were built in places to keep the ground from sliding down over the trail, or to shore up the trail.

The outcrops and the buildings are the best places to get an idea of what this rock is like. It is found to be in layers, and some of the layers are cross-bedded. That is, there are layers which slant across the principal bedding. From the layering we know that the rock was laid down as a sediment in a body of water. From the crossbedding we know that the currents must at times have been swift.

texture. For the most part the grains are no larger than sand, but here and there are pebbly layers, or small pieces of clay. The sand grains are of the mineral quartz. Mingled with them, in some layers, are tiny flakes of mica.

The grains are cemented to-

The overnight cabins in Pine Lake State Park are built from sandstones found in the region. The rock was laid down as sediment in water and from cross-bedding we know that currents in the water were at times swift.



One of the principal features of Pine Lake State Park is the artificial lake. The Island in the lake was formed by a ridge that extended into the valley. Part of it stood higher than the rest and as the lake was filled the ridge was submerged, leaving the higher part as an Island.

brown in color. Limonite is a mineral containing iron. It is much like iron rust. In places in the rock the limonite forms almost solid streaks. Most of the rock weathers rather easily, except where it is strongly cemented with limonite. It simply disintegrates into sand, but the limonite streaks break out in flat pieces. All along the east shore of the lake there is a shallow beach composed of this limonite sandstone. Evidently the sandstone, badly weathered, is The rock varies considerably in close to the surface on this side of the lake.

The sandstone blocks used along the trail are covered with litchens and moss. This seems to be a favorable place for their growth. Then in growing on the rock they help to weather it. Their rootlets penetrate the pores and force the grains apart. Also, when the rootlets decay they create a weak acid which helps to break down the rock.

This sandstone was formed at a remote time in earth history. It was laid down as sand during the period of coal formation in Iowa. Coal was mined nearby, in an early day. The impressions of leaves and other parts of the coal-forming plants are often found in the sandstone.

Everyone who visits the park notices the island out in the lake, and wonders how it got there. For an explanation of that we have to go back to the days before the lake. A ridge extended out into the valley, made by the erosion of streams on the two sides. Part of it stood higher than the rest, perhaps because there was resistant sandstone beneath. As the lake level rose the rest of the ridge was suban island.

pines find this area a favorable

gether with the mineral limonite. | country. They like a sandy soil, That is what makes the rock and here they have it, in the decomposing sandstone of an age long past. It just goes to show how much the events of bygone days play a part in the present.

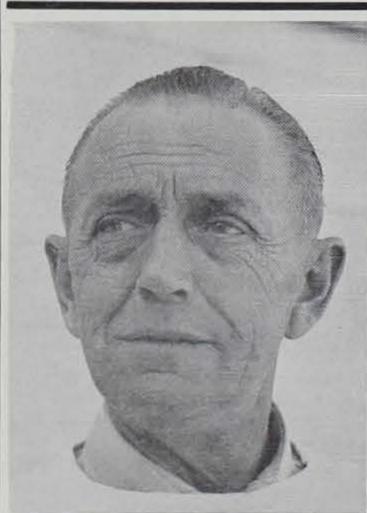
> Wise use of soil, water, and plant life is necessary if wildlife is to prosper. The same wise use of soil, water and plant life is necessary if people are to prosper.

> The least weasel is the smallest American Carnivore, weighing but one ten-thousandth as much as the largest carnivore, the Alaskan Brown Bear.

> Public ownership of wildlife is inherited by everyone. But the full enjoyment of wildlife use must be earned by the individual himself.

> Bobwhite quail have been known to attempt flights over water and swim ashore if unable to fly the complete distance.

> A pelican five feet long and weighing 25 pounds has a skeleton which weighs only 23 ounces.



Jim Sherman Photo.

Verne H. Petersen, 54, state boat inspector, died April 11 following a heart attack while on duty at Storm Lake. Verne is survived by his widow, a son in the Armed Services, and a daughter. He was buried at Clear merged, leaving the higher part as Lake. Verne had been employed with the Conservation Commission since February 1, 1938. A popular, efficient, hard-working There is a reason why white officer, he will be sorely missed by his fellow employees and his host of friends.



Pelicans fly with their heads hunched back on their shoulders, their long flat bills resting on their curved necks. They often climb to great heights where they are masters of the air currents.

WINGED FISHERMEN

Some of us think we are pretty good fishermen. We are rank amateurs compared to the winged experts who were fishing in the Lower Lake last week.

The white pelicans, double-crested cormorants and common loons who took over the bay for several days made the rest of us look like pikers. There were about 80 pelicans, a smaller flock of cormorants and just a few loons.

But they all knew their business. We will never know which among them caught the biggest fish but we can be sure of this, they caught some big strings because fish is the chief food of all three species of birds.

A wonderful bird is the pelican, as we have all heard since we were knee high. That big yellow bill of his is a membranous pouch on the underside, capable of great distension as he pours in the fish. It is the pelican's built-in storage locker.

All who enjoyed watching the local flock, en route from the south to their northwest nesting sites, probably noticed how they flew in orderly lines, alternating several flaps with a short sail, each bird in the flock playing follow-the-leader, flapping and sailing in rhythm, apparently taking the cue from the bird in front.

There is an old fable about pelicans (untrue, of course) that parent birds feed the young with blood from the breast.

Pelicans fly with their heads hunched back on their shoulders, their long, flat bills resting on their curved necks. They often climb to great heights and at these levels are masters of the air currents, soaring gracefully in wide circles.

On the lake, they swam in single file, like so many soldiers or Indians making a scout of First and Second islands. There is a continuous closed hunting season on pelicans, loons and cormorants but this shouldn't worry anybody because we can think of no birds, roasting in an oven, that would smell more fishy than any of these.

The cormorants, a black bird, a chorus of the same.

are less spectacular than the pelican and are often mistaken for geese. They fly in line or wedge formation, like geese, but in flight the cormorant holds its neck slightly above the horizontal (geese hold straight out) while the loon's neck droops slightly.

Of the three visiting species, the loon is our favorite. He is an avian submarine, a self-possessed character and a clown to boot. This joker, if you're fishing around him, will pop up any place, give you the horse laugh, dive and swim under water for a long stretch, then pop up and laugh again.

Several times we tuned our ear to the lake last week to hear the loons down there talk and laugh but we didn't hear them. They don't start talking, we read, until they reach their breeding ground, which is several hundred miles north of us, and Al Pettit says that ringing ha-oo-oo of theirs is heard only at night or before a storm.

Loons are wonderful to hear. One hot August, about 20 years ago, we were fishing at Leech Lake in northern Minnesota. We had come in about midnight one moonlight night (the fishing wasn't good, too much moon) and sat down on our cabin porch to smoke a cigaret before turning in.

Moonlight was streaming through the pines between the porch and the lake and made a glistening path on the broad expanse of water as far as we could see. There was no wind and all was silent when suddenly a bunch of loons, far out in the lake, started talking.

If you have heard loons, you know their song has a human quality and yet is so eerie it sounds like the laugh of a deranged person. They yodeled out there for a half hour, mixing it up with that high, spine-tingling ha-oo-oo, all of them together, repeating this from distant corners of their water playground.

We remember so well, too, how, when the ha-oo-ooing quit all at once, a piercing crazy laugh, a chilling thing to hear, came across the lake, all by itself, followed by a chorus of the same.

We have been up north many times since and have always been on the lookout for a repeat concert, but have never heard the equal of those Leech Lake loons. It is no doubt the wierdest wild song of the north and it is also the one we enjoy hearing the most.—

Outdoors by Gib Knudson, Jr., Emmetsburg Democrat.

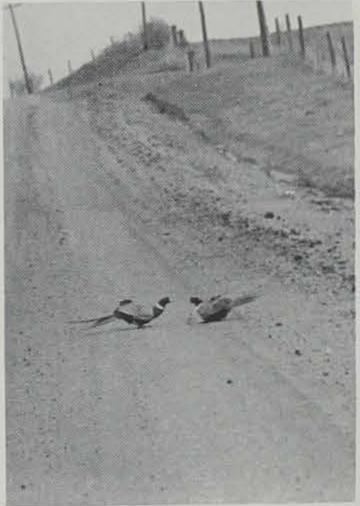
SPRING AT WORK

Today there is a fragrant moisture in the air . . . nature's silent announcement of a new season. Two weeks ago I saw the early blush of the crocus, the colorful harbinger of spring. Yesterday I saw the first spring beauties and fat pussy willows. By providential arrangement the ducks are flying in pairs, and the full plumage of the male is especially attractive against the drab surrounding of late winter.

Two days ago a cocky pheasant rooster dared me to crush his coat with my car. I stopped, he won. But I got a good look at a fellow with perfect attire . . . his ears were erect like a Doberman . . . his head color like a natty tie on a beau brummel . . . his legs moved in regular cadence, and his eye carefully measured the distance between my front bumper and himself. He seemed to sense that I had cut the gas. I stopped and my friend with me in the car jumped out to the road to get a better close-up of nature's show-bird.

He walked to the shoulder, and so did we, carefully. Up jumps a plain grey bird. It was his wife, hard-working girl. Down in the road ditch looking for grit and other minerals and proteins for the eggs that she plans to lay soon, that's the life for you. No color, no cocky air, just an old grey dress and some well worn claws . . . slick and sleek, vigorous and vibrant.

About this time a second hen flushes, too. Smart old rooster: two wives, both working! Work-



Jim Sherman Photo

With spring at work, the ringneck pheasant rooster becomes a beautiful, cocky bird with perfect attire. With ears erect like a Doberman he disputes the right-of-way to all who pass.



"It's spring and everything's green and clean. Let's keep it that way, huh, folks?"

ing for whom? For you, Mr. Hunter, bigger and better broods for better shooting next November. Last, but not least, the old boy himself becomes air-borne . . . wings pulling a few lazy strokes, and tail erect to the rear. Great birds, these pheasants.

On the way back to town we spy a woodchuck in a tree. Unusual, yes, but with water from the Mississippi all around the tree the chuck had no alternative: climb or drown!

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The Clarence Petersens on their way to church Sunday evening spied five deer within breathing distance of their car. That's a real thrill.

The ducks milling over Pogeman's field near the Maquoketa River is a sight to behold; thousands of them circling, more thousands with wings set as they aim for a roosting spot in the water below. Don't miss this scene, folks; a few good color shots would be worthwhile, too.

Muskrats swimming in the roadside ponds near Pleasant Creek provide another wildlife treat. If you're careful you'll see a beaver, too.—Bellevue Leader.

A BUCK IN A BARBER SHOP

Residents on Onawa's Iowa avenue were startled Monday afternoon when a buck raced down the alley between the Coen Furniture store and the Samson Jewelry store. As the animal darted across the main street, it collided with one of the army trucks, but was not stopped. It dashed on across, burst through the window of the Clay Barber shop and proceeded to almost wreck the place. The foot rest of the barber chair was broken and the cash register knocked to the floor by the animal in its fright. Bystanders went to the rear of the building and forced open the back door, and when last seen the buck was heading westward, apparently little hurt.

According to Basil Downing, game warden in this area, quite a number of deer have been seen in the Whiting areas, forced out by the high waters.—Onawa Sentinel.