

IOWA CONSERVATIONIST

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THE DUCK STAMP NARRATIVE

TWIN LAKES STATE PARK

By Charles S. Gwynne

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Twin Lakes State Park is on the shore of North Twin Lake in north-central Calhoun county, about five miles north of Rockwell City. As the name suggests, there are two lakes. They are separated by a narrow strip of land, so that they form almost a continuous sheet of water. This extends for a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in a northeast-southwest direction. North Twin Lake is a narrow lake about two miles long and $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide. South Twin Lake to the southwest is more rounded. It is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and almost a mile wide at the widest.

These lakes are of glacial origin. Or perhaps it would be better to say that the depressions occupied by the lakes are of glacial origin. We need not be concerned about the water to form the lakes. For with an annual precipitation of more than 30 inches, such as this part of Iowa has, the basins are easily kept full.

What do we mean when we say that the lake basins are of glacial origin? For an answer to this we must briefly review the history of this part of North America over the past million or two years. It has been covered by ice sheets, moving from the north, at least three times. Each time as the ice melted away it left a deposit of glacial drift, the subsoil of the region. The surface of the drift was not left flat. Instead, most of it was gently rolling. In places the slopes were steeper and the terrain would be classified as hilly. The Twin Lakes are in large depressions in the drift surface. From their length contrasted with their width it would appear likely that they occupy part of an ancient river valley.

The deposits of drift left by the glaciers are called drift plains. At

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The first duck stamp designed by J. N. "Ding" Darling in 1934 set the pattern for those to follow. The 1953 duck stamp, twentieth in the series, was designed by Clay Seagears of the New York Conservation Department.

Multiflora: Barbed Fence That Grows

Horse high, bull strong and goat tight is an apt Missouri description of multiflora rose fence, and in Iowa it is beginning to find an important place in our farm economy.

In 1940, the Soil Conservation Service in search of a living fence to substitute for the Osage Orange, determined that multiflora rose had all the virtues of Osage without the latter's vices. In the last decade the fence has proved out completely in the southern half of the state and experimental plantings in the northern half thriving like native plants.

The rose reaches its maximum growth in from 6 to 8 years, is stock-proof in from 3 to 4. It will grow to a height and width of 8 feet. It will not spread to adjacent fields and does not deplete the soil. Once established, it is impervious to all livestock but unringed pigs. The live fence can be established for less than two-thirds the cost of a woven wire fence, and the grown hedge needs no trimming or maintenance.

Unlike a conventional fence, it will effectively check both water and wind erosion. It is trespass-proof. It furnishes an excellent fencing for contour plantings between fields. The tangled, thorny canes collect leaf mulch, slow the water run-off and allow it to soak into the soil. By breaking the wind, multiflora rose reduces field evaporation in summer and checks winter wind erosion. It is ideal for fencing grassed waterways and farm ponds. In winter it is an effective snow fence. And, last but not least, it is beautiful. It's not hard to imagine the scenic values of a farm fenced with a solid wall of roses.

Since the best way to sell any good product is by demonstration, State Conservation Officers were asked to send in the locations of what they considered good multiflora rose plantings. These are only a few of the hedges in the state, but they are representative. If you are interested, drive out,

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By John Madson
Education Assistant

The waterfowl outlook was pretty black in the early thirties. Protective laws had followed years of almost unrestricted hunting, but had failed to bring back the vanishing waterfowl. Prolonged droughts were eliminating vast areas of marsh, and waterfowl habitat was disappearing through countless drain tiles and ditches. Many hunters were predicting the extinction of ducks and geese, and waterfowling appeared to be on its way out.

It is typically American to become alarmed at a condition just before it is hopeless and then take action. This was the situation when J. N. "Ding" Darling became chief of the U. S. Biological Survey in 1934.

Shortly before his appointment as survey chief, Mr. Darling had been appointed by President Roosevelt to a three-member committee to study the waterfowl situation and make recommendations. The committee recommended immediate allocation of \$25,000,000 for the restoration of submarginal lands and other areas suitable for development for waterfowl.

Congress appropriated only \$8,500,000 for immediate use. The day was saved, however, when the duck stamp bill that had been kicking around for several years became law, guaranteeing ducks and geese a badly needed annuity.

The Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act or "Duck Stamp Law" provided for a sort of federal duck hunting license required of all waterfowl hunters over sixteen years of age. All income from the stamp sales was to be used for acquisition and improvement of waterfowl sanctuaries, law enforcement and studies into the problems of waterfowl management.

The first stamp posed several problems. The issue had to be printed and distributed in the short time before the opening of hunting season, and thousands of postmasters had to be given instructions relative to sale.

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THE APRIL PRAIRIES

There are three generations of Iowans who have never known native prairie as it once existed. These are the generations who have grown up with cornfields, surfaced roads, and consolidated schools. And, never having known it they do not know what they have missed.

The old writers and settlers say the prairie was like a sea with long, heavy groundswells. It was neither angular and abrupt, nor flat and monotonous. Early travelers, emerging from the heavy forests of the east, were blinded with a profusion of light and flowers. This prairie was not a treeless waste, for there were stately groves and heavily timbered watercourses. Judge Hall writes that when the groves closed about the prairie the effect was that of a lake, with the surrounding forest indented to form bays and headlands in a sea of grass. If the plain was large, Hall said the distant forest was like a "dim shore beheld at a great distance from the ocean."



The summer months bring a constant succession of rare and beautiful prairie flowers and grasses. Jim Sherman Photo.



The Kalsow Prairie, here outlined in ink, is four and one-half miles northwest of Manson. This prairie has never been plowed and has proved of great value for soil and vegetation studies. Jim Sherman Photo.

There was game everywhere. In the groves and along the timbered rivers were elk, deer, bear, and turkey. On the open prairie there were grouse without number, and wolf, fox, and coyote. The thousands of potholes and sloughs sheltered myriads of nesting ducks and geese. The prairie was a wilderness, true, but in April it was one of birds, flowers, and sun. In spring, the prairies put on a thin coat of green. There were blossoms of wild strawberry, violet wood-sorrel, prairie violet, and the new shoots of goldenrod, blazing star, and sunflower. Among the young spears of grass were the flowers of puccoon, false indigo, and the pink and purple prairie phlox. In the groves and woodlands the redbud and dogwood were beginning to bloom, soon followed by wild plum, wild cherry, and crabapple. Such prairie Aprils must have been welcome rewards

for the wild animals and men that endured the terrible winters. The prairie couldn't last, of course. The end began in 1832 with the first government surveys of southeastern Iowa. Squatter settlement began the next year, and by the last year of the Civil War only one-ninth of Iowa was public land. The blazing star and rattlesnake master were becoming wheat, corn and oats, and a few years later "prairie" was only a word. But a few scraps have been preserved. In 1945 the State Conservation Commission acquired the Hayden Prairie, a 199-acre tract in Howard County. Four years later a quarter section of prairie 4 1/2 miles northwest of Manson was acquired. This Kalsow Prairie had never been plowed, and the only change that has been made since the Ice Age is the addition of a fence to exclude livestock. Other native prairies in private ownership are the Robb Prairie northwest of Estherville, the Pilot Rock Prairie south of Cherokee, and the Muscatine Prairie near Keokuk Lake. Prairie acquisition was not based on sentiment alone although there is much of that in every remnant. Native prairie is of great value to ecologists and scientists who study plant succession and the origin of soils. The virgin soil is also used in comparison with the depth and fertility of topsoil on long-cultivated farms. The value of virgin prairie to botanists and wildlife workers is apparent. But also important is the feeling of history that you have when visiting prairie. Except for the farms on the horizon and the sound of a distant train you might have stepped backward a hundred years.

If you are a woman, go there and see flowers that you have never seen before, and may never see again. Think too of a sod

house with no neighbors for fifty miles. If you are a man, walk out into the prairie and say, "I am a non-commissioned officer, private, or musician who has just served in the war with Mexico. I was wounded at Churubusco, and Congress has given me this quarter-section as my land warrant." If you are a boy, find a soft place in a patch of yellow star grass and dream of Indians. —J. M.

Wardens Tales

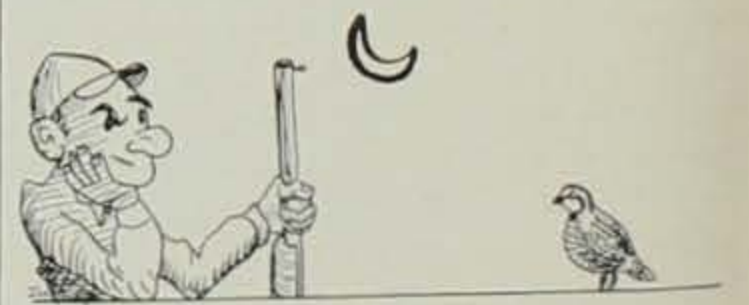
Shop Talk from the Field

Dick Jacobson, officer in charge of Lyon and Osceola counties, was almost decoyed this winter. While crossing a river bridge in his territory, Dick saw a man sitting on a box downstream near an open patch of water. Upon investigation the officer's suspicions were confirmed, and the man was arrested and fined for spearing fish. Several days later Dick again drove across the bridge, looked downstream, and saw the man



back at the same old stand, still spearing fish. On a hunch, Dick focused his binoculars on the spearman and saved himself a cold walk. The "man" was a well-constructed dummy, fully clothed and equipped and waiting for some gullible conservation officer.

Christie Hein, Lucas and Wayne counties' conservation officer, writes: "A farmer-sportsman in Wayne County, who raised and released quail on his farm, decided to have a quail dinner. A few days after the season opened last fall, he called a friend to join him on the hunt. On the appointed day the friend arrived with his shotgun and a quail-eating grin on his face." "The two hunters had a good dog that worked every patch of cover in sight. Hour after hour they hunted through thicket and field, but still no quail. They finally began heading back toward



the house, still wondering where the birds were. Since it was 4:28 and they were nearly home, guns were unloaded and shells were pocketed, and the dog made one (Continued on page 117)



Jim Sherman Photo. The crow is one of the very few unprotected wildlife species that make suitable pets. The mischievousness of the crow is legendary and its flare for causing trouble makes Peck's bad boy seem like a choir singer.

COMIC OF THE CLOTHESLINE

The sight of an unusually fat crow flying leisurely and unafraid around Buckingham is becoming a familiar one to folks in this friendly little Tama county town. It's a pet owned by the Victor Johnsen family and while the ebony-hued bird has been in circulation only a short time, it has made many friends—which is in sharp contrast to the wild species. Mrs. Johnsen is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo Brandt, of Reinbeck.

Now, don't get the idea that this Buckingham bird doesn't have its—or more correctly—his faults.

Named Jim by his owners, this wise young creature with the raucous squawk not only knows his name but he also knows how to get into mischief.

Shiny object attract him as well as paper and on a few occasions he has been guilty of petty larceny involving such articles as clips, pins and assorted printed matter.

But Jim has not tampered with Uncle Sam's mail at any time. One resident remarked that he could win a vote of thanks if he "lifted" some of the bills and advertising matter that are left in mail boxes but the feathered friend with the sleek black coat hasn't specialized in this type of "service."

A number of housewives will tell you, according to Mrs. H. G. Ross, of occasions when Jim pecked and pulled a few clothes pins loose from clothes lines with his big beak to cause parts of the family wash to drag to the ground. If he can't get one loose, he tries

the next and usually succeeds with at least one.

One young mother had her clothesline full of her three-month-old daughter's diapers and garments. The temptation was too much for Jim. From his observation post he flew down and tried to pull off each pin. All resisted his efforts except the last one on the line. After quite a tussle he yanked it loose and with a joyful "caw" he flew away.

Before it got to be a habit, his owner taught him that crime of any sort doesn't pay by placing him in a cage when washings were drying.

On one occasion Jim wanted to get into the act when a couple of small youngsters were playing with a small rubber ball with a string cover.

Waiting for a favorable opportunity from his perch on a nearby fence, Jim suddenly swooped down on the ball as it rolled in the grass, picked it up in his beak that is plenty strong as the result of constant exercise, and flew to the lower branches of a big maple tree.

The youngsters howled in anger at the sudden interruption of their game, but not for long. Jim, sensing that his behavior wasn't in line, dropped the ball and winged his way to another sector looking for more adventure.

The Johnsen family, owners of the unusual crow, live near the Chicago and North Western railroad depot where Mr. Johnsen is the agent. They acquired the bird from Bob Harris. The fledglings were found in a nest early this spring by Don and Roger Harrison in a tree in the Reinbeck cemetery.

It appeared the young birds had been deserted so the Reinbeck folks took the four home. Three died, however, as a result of nicotine poisoning from eating cigarette butts. Only Jim survived.

Jim makes the depot his base of operations. If the door is open, in he goes to see his owner. He appears to know a number of adults and children, as well, especially those who feed him.

One of the places he gets regular handouts is the Buckingham grocery store, operated by Roger Messerly. Roger reports that Jim hops and flops up the steps of the rear entrance, pecks at the screen door until he's treated with bits of ham or bacon and then flies off.

Some folks make Jim earn his food. They wait until he takes a position on a wire or on the branch of a tree and then throw a crust of bread up in the air. Most of the time Jim catches it in midair. But sometimes he's just plain lazy and refuses to put on his stunt flying act.

About a month ago, Jim flew off to join a noisy flock of crows that appeared to be "polling the delegation" in a convention in a nearby woods. But after an absence of three days, Jim returned and appeared happy to be back with his human friends.

He was strangely silent for a few days following his return but resumed his "cawing" much to the delight of the youngsters. Jim doesn't like dogs or cats. They pay little attention to him but he frequently resorts to scolding them in his distinctive style.—*Reinbeck Courier*.

Many species of aquatic plants have diminutive forms under difficult growing conditions. These species will flower and fruit as midgets, but their offspring may be more normal giants if growing conditions are favorable the following years.—*J. S.*

HAPPENS EVERY TIME

It was a coon and not a black cat that crossed the path of a local housewife Friday the 13th.

The creature created quite a stir at the residence of Mrs. Ella Sorensen at 802 Durant Street. And he left his toothmarks on the ankles of Mrs. Jack Boots who lives in the Sorensen apartments.

Beege, the pet coon of Raymond England, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne England of 5th and South Streets, evidently felt the 'call of the wild' stirring in his fat, furry chest. But he chose an unlucky day to escape from his pen.

Apparently hunger drove him to the doorstep of Mrs. Sorensen who discovered the animal Friday morning when she went to investigate a scratching noise on her porch. She summoned neighbors, including Mrs. Boots, and in no time Beege found himself the center of a group of curious but cautious spectators. He appeared quite amiable and the small children who had gathered took turns petting him.

Then Beege made his big mistake.

Mrs. Boots stepped forward to pet him. Beege was hungry and Mrs. Boots had just left her kitchen where food was cooking. Beege sank his vicious little teeth in her ankles.

Beege was instantly banished to a local fur dealer, since the bystanders didn't know what else to do with him, and Mrs. Boots was hastily taken to a doctor for medical treatment.

Later the Englands heard of Beege's plight, and took him home.

He has been a family pet for seven months. A farmer friend gave him to Raymond when the coon was three weeks old.

Meanwhile Beege is securely chained to his premises while awaiting rabid tests.—*Harlan Advertiser News*.



Jim Sherman Photo. Invariably within a few months, bottle raised raccoons resent handling and become mean and must be disposed of.



Jim Sherman Photo.

Although Iowa duck shooters were disappointed in last year's season, tremendous spring flights indicate an abundance of waterfowl in the Mississippi flyway.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DUCKS LAST FALL?

We attended the sessions of the Wildlife Conference held recently in Burlington attended by U. S. Fish and Wildlife officials and representatives of the Conservation Commissions from the states of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. We know many of these men personally and with information gathered from their reports and personal interviews we were able to garner considerable data for our readers.

First, let us state that we believe that we have solved the great mystery of "What happened to the ducks last fall?" a small matter which has bothered many duck hunters. Many local duck hunters were of the opinion that the census as compiled by the Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited in the Canadian provinces was in error when they reported that there was a considerable increase in the duck population. If any of our readers still believe these boys made a mistake when these estimates were released let us tell them right here and now that the census and increase were correct. The proof lies in the fact that the big increase shows up in the number of ducks that reported in the south and which now are present in the wintering grounds of our nation.

The state of Illinois stated that the biggest flight in the Illinois River district occurred after their season had been closed for two days, but we cannot say with any authority that this was true in Iowa. The truth and the gist of the whole matter is that our ducks passed through this area mostly on moonlight nights on their annual southward migration. That is what this corner suspected right along and which was corroborated by competent observers whose business it is to ascertain such data. Old timers in this phase of wildlife management say this happens

in years when local conditions, particularly water, are not just suited to the ducks' liking and when weather conditions are such as to make night migration ideal.

When we reflect on the fall of 1952 and take into consideration our conditions, we can better understand why and how this can and does happen. We had a low stage of water here last fall. Feed conditions were ideal here, but don't forget feed was plentiful up north, too, so when many ducks got that particular urge to migrate southward they just kept on going on when we had cloudless skies and a bright moon to help them on their way. We had no flooded timber or back waters to offer them, so why should they have stopped here? The worst part if it is—they didn't.

We have come to the conclusion that duck hunters in this area can have a good duck season regardless of what happened to the duck population up north, whether it be good or bad, provided we have just one condition here. That is water and the more we have of it the better off we are as far as duck hunting is concerned and, oh yes, we almost forgot. If our water is only normal, let's have cloudy nights when the moon is in the light part of its travels.—By Louis J. Dehner, *Burlington Hawkeye-Gazette*.

The common slough grass or prairie cordgrass native to Iowa is one of the original and one of the finest grasses for grass water ways. The scientific name of this grass species is *Spartina pectinata* and could be put to use on Iowa farms. Let us put this plant back in the water ways where it should never have been removed.—J. S.

A hard day's work never hurt anyone. Neither does a good day's fishing or hunting.

WHAT ABOUT THE COTTONTAIL?

Rabbit season in Iowa came to a close on Jan. 31, and so far as Scott county hunters are concerned, the season ended on a very gloomy note.

Where did the bunnies go, or was the early forecast of an average crop a gross over-estimate? What part did the fox play in reducing cottontail numbers? Are we so short of cover that the rabbits are easy prey for their natural enemies? Just some of the questions the hunters are asking.

We still think that as of late last summer, we had an average crop of cottontails. A drive over many miles of back roads disclosed a good number of young rabbits where they were present in other years. No doubt that a lot of the bunnies fell to the scattergun during the pheasant season, so that when snow fell, and the trails should show, the bunnies were not in evidence.

The last few weeks of the season, with snow on the ground, really pointed up how short the present supply of rabbits has become. In many fields it is impossible to locate a trail in the snow. Farmers are the first to admit that the rabbit population is very low.

Not a few sportsmen think that the fox is taking too heavy a toll of rabbits. This could well be. One group of fox hunters, using the plane for spotting purposes, has now run their kill to 87 foxes this fall and winter. That is a lot of fox pelts, and when the other hunting results are added to the number taken by the plane group,

the number of foxes taken in the county is large.

There is no one answer to the rabbit question. It is true that this species is cyclic. We were in a rising cycle. It may be turning downward again. But this we do know, the rabbit must have cover, and lacking good cover, their numbers are apt to be decimated. Some substitute for the ground hog dens must be found. There are few ground hogs. Their unused dens were the best rabbit warrens known. If we can't create suitable substitutes the business of rabbit hunting may get pretty slim.—by *The Nomad, Davenport Democrat*.

Many birds apparently detect motion overhead, but must tip their heads and focus a single eye on the object overhead before the object can be identified.—M.S.

FISH-EATING BIRDS

By David H. Thompson and Roberts Mann

Man adopted checks and balances as a part of government long after they were part of nature. Since prehistoric times, these complex relationships between the hunters and their prey—between the eaters and those eaten—have gradually developed to check the overabundance of any species. Their absence is unnatural. Nature, let alone, is always orderly. Man, however, is radically changing the face of the earth by draining and leveeing submarginal lands, ploughing the prairies, clearing-cutting the forests, and polluting the streams. In his zeal to "man-

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Jim Sherman Photo.

In late summer and early fall, cottontail rabbits were abundant. By midwinter they appeared to be few and far between in most areas.



Crow shooting from a blind with the use of call and decoys is becoming one of the favorite off-season gunning sports. Its devotees claim for it the "toughest of wing shooting and no closed seasons."

FAST GROWING WINTER SPORT

Conservation Agents and other field men of the Conservation Commission furnished data on 130 known crow roosts in the state of Missouri for release to sportsmen as an off-season activity. Complete data on location of crow roosts over the state may be secured from each Conservation Agent.

The Commission offers this service to both the rifle and shotgun enthusiast as an opportunity to keep that shooting eye in trim. The Commission believes the crow should be utilized for its sporting possibilities rather than indiscriminately bombed. In order to maintain crow roosts and provide sport for hunters over a long period of time, it is essential that no shooting take place in the roost itself. A good plan is to locate a blind from 1/4 to 1/2 mile away from the roost, on the leeward side, and to use decoys in the form of owls, crows, or both and a crow caller.

Crow shooters hunting on islands and sandbars along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers where they form state boundaries should take care to stay within the Missouri boundary or secure appropriate

non-resident licenses. There is no closed season on crows in Missouri, but a small game hunting license is required. Farmers hunting on their own lands need no license.—*Missouri Conservation Commission.*

DEATH ON THE BIG SIOUX

According to the books (and the January IOWA CONSERVATIONIST) buck deer have ended their rutting season by January and have also shed their antlers.

But on February 6th, Conservation Officer Dick Jacobson found two bucks on the Big Sioux River in Lyon County that hadn't read the books. Still heavily antlered, the bucks had fought a battle which resulted in the antlers locking.

One of the bucks, later found to weigh two hundred pounds, suffered a broken neck. In spite of this weight on his antlers, the other buck was still extremely active.

"When we approached the deer," Jacobson reports, "his eyes were blood-red. Although he had a couple of hundred pounds of dead weight hanging from his head, he dragged and tossed the carcass of the dead deer easily. At one time



Winter kill is common in shallow lakes and bayous and often presents this picture when the ice melts in the spring.

WINTERKILL COMMON IN NORTHERN STATES

Every winter the anglers in the northern third of the nation risk having the fish population of their favorite lake completely destroyed by a death-dealing wintertime hazard known as *winterkill*. The fish do not die from the cold or from the freezing, as some anglers believe; they suffocate.

When a lake freezes over, wind action and plant growth—two important sources of oxygen—are stopped. Snow on top of the ice further aggravates the situation since the light which can penetrate through the ice alone to permit moderate plant growth is now cut off by the snow. Robbed of life-sustaining oxygen, the fish die.

State conservation department and sportsmen's organizations have

tried numerous techniques to halt winterkill: clearing away snow, churning oxygen into the water with motors, pumping water from the lake across makeshift falls, etc. But none of these methods works in stopping the creeping killer. There is only one good remedy—deepening the lake. Deepening the lake adds more water volume, more dissolved oxygen. Short of this, there is no present cure for winterkill.—*The Fisherman.*

Wardens Tales . . .

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last fruitless cast through a small slough."

"Discouraged, the hunters climbed the garden fence and started for the kitchen. As they got to the center of the garden two dozen fat quail burst out like small bombs and flew away unscathed."

he nearly threw the dead buck clear of the ground."

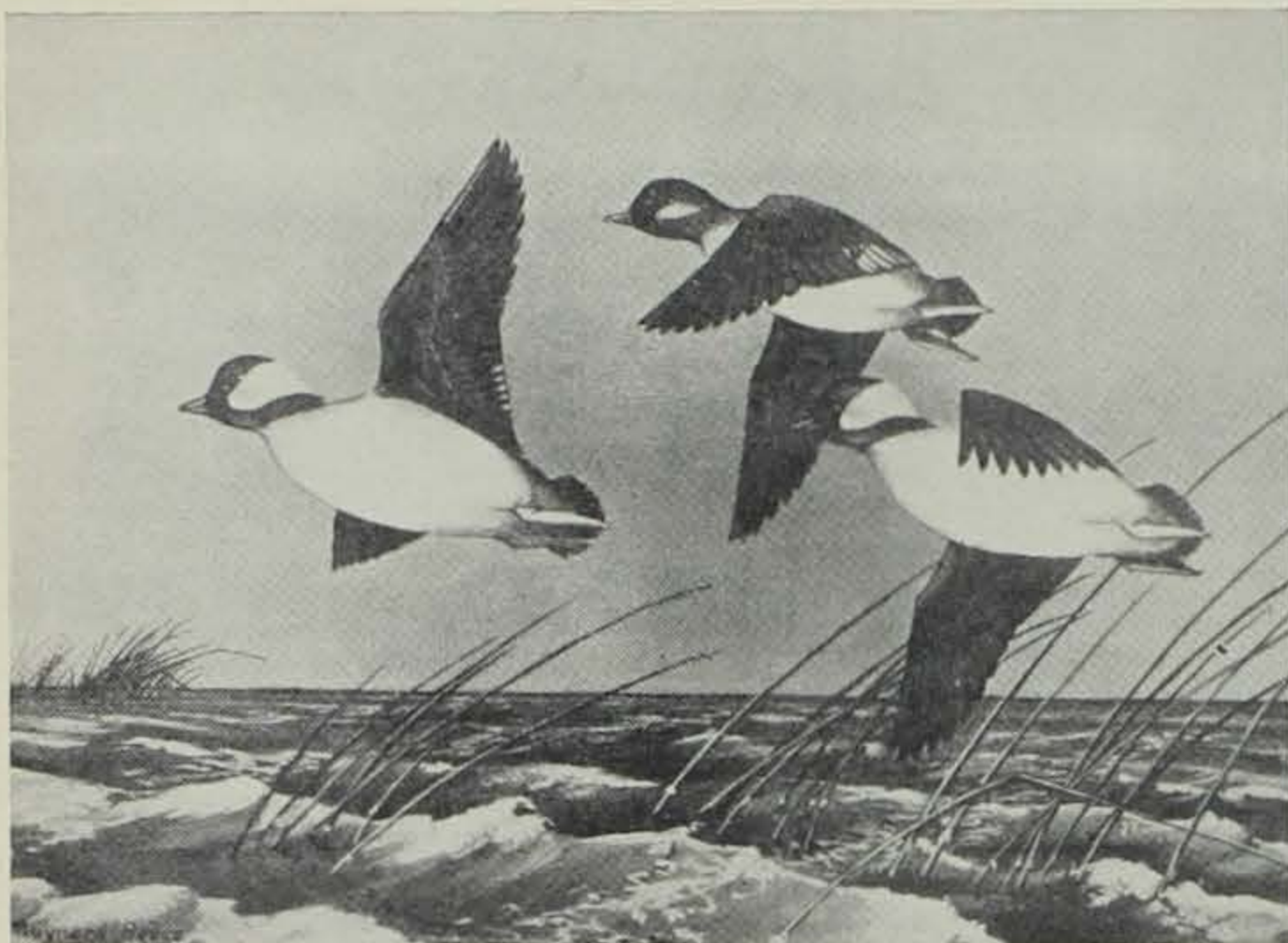
Several men finally managed to secure the raging buck with ropes, and cut the antlers apart with a hacksaw.

Such an exhibition of strength and power is proof of the tremendous strength of a big game animal, and indicates the potential danger of fawns that are raised as pets.



Dick Jacobson Photo.

"Although the winning buck had a couple of hundred pounds of dead weight hanging from his head, he dragged and tossed the carcass of the dead deer easily."



The 1948-49 stamp was designed by Iowa Artist Maynard Reece, who also made the illustrations for the books *Waterfowl in Iowa* and *Iowa Fish and Fishing*.

Duck Stamps . . .

(Continued from page 113)

First concern, however, was one of design. What sort of thing was this duck stamp to be? In Ding's own words: "Colonel Sheldon, then public relations head of the survey, came to me waving the time schedule and saying no one had the faintest idea of what a design for a conservation Duck Stamp should include. That evening after work I made six experimental sketches of what I thought a duck stamp should look like and delivered them to Sheldon. I told him they were only preliminary designs and that if they met the specifications of the Bureau of Engraving I would refine them for the final stamp."

"Three days later I asked Sheldon what had happened to the designs and he said, 'Oh, they selected one and the engravers are at work on it.'"

Ding was "put out" at having his roughs used, but the first duck stamp was on its way, and that was that.

The first stamp, designed for the 1934-35 hunting season, was blue and showed two mallards pitching into a marsh. Total sales amounted to \$635,001. Scott lists the present value of the stamp in mint condition at \$15. Ding recently advised that he would autograph the stamp for philatelists without charge.

Duck stamps bear a painting, etching or drawing of a different species of waterfowl each year. Designs are submitted by artists to a committee of the U. S. Fish



The 1951-52 duck stamp was Reece's second design accepted. Only one other artist has designed two duck stamps.

and Wildlife Service, and are judged solely on artistic merit.

Black and white lithographs about seven by ten inches of the Duck Stamp suitable for framing may be obtained from the artists. Prices range from fifteen to twenty dollars.

Stamps issued to date after Ding's stamp and their designers are:

- 1935-1936. Artist Frank Benson (deceased). Design: three canvas-back alighting on a marsh. Color: rose lake. Watercolor. Total sales: 448,204. Scotts list value of stamps in mint condition: \$22.50.
- 1936-37. Artist Richard Bishop, Spring Bank Lane, Mount Airy Post Office, Philadelphia. Design: three Canada geese on the wing. Color: brown-black. Etching. Total sales: 603,623. List value: \$8.
- 1937-38. *Artist J. D. Knap, 2501 Palisade Ave., New York 65, N. Y. Design: five bluebills speeding over a windy marsh. Color: light green. Total sales: 783,039. List value: \$7.50.
- 1938-39. Artist Roland Clark, address unknown. Design: a pintail drake and hen coming in to land. Color: light violet. Etching. Total sales: 1,002,715. List value: \$9.
- 1939-40. *Artist Lynn Bogue Hunt, 41 Union Square, New York City. Design: a male and female green winged teal. Color: chocolate. Total sales: 1,111,651. List value: \$5.
- 1940-41. *Artist Francis Jaques, 610 W. 116th St., New York City. Design: a pair of black ducks flying over sedge. Color: sepia. Total sales: 1,260,810. List value: \$3.75.
- 1941-42. *Artist E. R. Kalmbach, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Customhouse, Denver. Design: a family of ruddy ducks swimming. Color: lively brown. Total sales: 1,439,967. List value: \$3.75.
- 1942-43. *Artist A. Lassell Ripley, 52 Follen Road, Lexington, Massachusetts. Design: a pair of baldpates with a third bird landing. Color: brown carmine. Dry point etching. Total sales: 1,383,629. List value: \$3.50.
- 1943-44. *Artist Walter E. Bohl, Box 782, Scottsdale, Arizona. Design: a pair of wood ducks in flight. Color: Indian red. Etching. Total sales: 1,169,352. List value: \$2.75.
- 1944-45. *Artist Walter A. Weber, National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. Design: three white-fronted geese coming head on. Color: orange-red. Total sales: 1,487,029. List value: \$2.50.
- 1945-46. *Artist Owen J. Gromme, Curator, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin. Design: three shovellers in full flight. Color: black and white. Watercolor. Total sales: 1,725,505. List value \$2.25.
- 1946-47. *Artist Robert W. Hines, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C. Design: four red-heads on surface of water, with a fifth pitching in to join them.

- Color: medium dark maroon-brown. Total sales: 1,725,505. List value: \$2.25.
- 1947-48. *Artist Jack Murray, West Cornwall, Connecticut. Design: two snow geese in flight. Color: black on white. Etching. Total sales: 2,016,819. List value: \$1.75.
- 1948-49. *Artist Maynard Reece, 3405 50th St., Des Moines 10, Iowa. Design: three buffleheads flying into the wind over a rough coastal bay. Color: brilliant light blue. Total sales: 1,722,677. List value: \$1.75.
- 1949-50. Artist Roger Preuss, 1724 Park Ave., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Design: a male and female goldeneye winging into a quiet cove to join several others. Color: light green. Watercolor. Total sales: 2,096,252. List value: \$3.
- 1950-51. *Artist Walter Weber, National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. Design: flying Trumpeter swans. Color: violet. Total sales: 1,903,644. List value: \$3.
- 1951-52. *Artist Maynard Reece, 3405 50th St., Des Moines 10, Iowa. Design: two gadwall ducks jumping from a pond. Color: gray-black. Total sales: 2,167,767. List value: \$3.
- 1952-53. *Artist John Dick, Dixie Plantation, Meggett, South Carolina. Design: two harlequin ducks flying over rocky surf. Color: blue. Total sales, not yet released. List value: \$3.

*Artist has advised that he will autograph stamps for philatelists without charge.

Most of the stamps are collector's items now, and available only through dealers. The U. S. Philatelic Service in Washington, however, usually holds a supply for about two years or until it is exhausted.

The original cost of each stamp was one dollar, but this was increased to two dollars in 1949 to provide more revenue. Of the total income, five percent is spent for administration of the duck stamp

program and ten percent is allotted for law enforcement. The rest goes for acquisition and maintenance of waterfowl refuges.

Such refuges are vital to mid-western hunters. Of the four national flyways, our Mississippi flyway received 42 per cent of the gunning pressure in 1951. In addition to having nearly half of the nation's waterfowlers, this flyway is also an agricultural area where land of any kind is at a premium. The value of refuges in such a setup is obvious.

As well as furnishing breeding, resting, and feeding habitat to the harried flocks, such refuges also hold ducks and geese in an area after they would normally have gone, and so constitute a sort of waterfowl reservoir in heavily hunted districts. In some refuges, as much as one-fourth of the area may be opened to hunting, if development is completed and waterfowl populations permit. And, as well as furnishing refuge funds, duck stamp sales give the Fish and Wildlife Service some idea of the number of hunters in each flyway, and more efficient regulations can be made.

Ding Darling said "Ducks can't breed in the air, they can't nest on the tops of posts." But for duck stamps, they might have had to

The common barn pigeon, or rock dove, is found wild in India.—M.S.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"Floods and more floods! Why not try to hold the water where it falls—on the watersheds of upstream tributaries?"



Horse high, bull strong and goat tight is an apt Missouri description of multiflora rose fence.

Jim Sherman Photo.

Multiflora . . .

(Continued from page 113)

take a look at them, and talk to their enthusiastic owners.

- | County | Location |
|--------------------|---|
| Benton | Howard Knupp farm. 2 3/4 mi. E. of Highway 218 on the Shellsburg road. |
| Boone | Walt Goeppinger farm. 1 1/2 mi. N. and 1/2 mi. W. of Boone. |
| Buchanan | I. M. Albert farm. Jefferson township, Sec. 23, R. 10. 1 mi. N. of Brandon. |
| Buena Vista | Axel Bodholdt farm. 2 mi. E. of Sulphur Springs and 1 1/2 mi. N. on east side of road.
Vernon Haar farm. 3 1/4 mi. N. of Newell on east side of road.
Merlin Brummer farm. 1 mi. E. of Albert City and 4 1/2 miles S. on east side of road. |
| Cass | Boyd Bailey farm. 4 mi. W. of Atlantic on Sixth Street road and 2 1/2 mi. S.
Fred Ihnen farm. 1 mi. N. and 1/2 mi. E. of Cumberland. |
| Cerro Gordo | Frank Neeley farm. 3 mi. E. and 4 mi. N. of Cartersville. |
| Cherokee | Glenn Dyslin farm. On Highway 3, 2 mi. N. of Aurelia, 1 mi. E.
Ralph Kludas farm. 2 mi. N.E. of Cherokee.
Farmers' Hybrid Hog Farm. 3 1/2 mi. N. of Cherokee on Highway 59. |
| Clarke | Doyce Miller farm. 3 1/2 mi. N. of Osceola. |
| Dallas | C. H. Burger farm. 1 1/2 mi. S. of Waukeo and 2 mi. W. |
| Des Moines | Homer Woodward |

- farm. 1 1/2 mi. S.W. of Burlington near edge of Iowa Ordnance Plant.
Herbert Schnicker farm. 4 mi. W. and 1 mi. N. of Mediapolis.
- Dickinson**—Rose Boettcher farm. 3 1/4 mi. N.W. of Spirit Lake.
- Hancock**—Martin Hinders farm. 4 mi. S. Britt, 1/2 mi. E. of Highway 111.
Al Kemp farm. Just S.W. of city limits of Kanawha.
- Hardin**—Lloyd Roland farm. Alden twp. Sec. 17, 5 mi. W. of Alden on Highway 20.
Homer Calkins farm. 4 mi. S.W. of Alden.
- Henry**—Carl Roberts farm. 4 mi. S. of Mt. Pleasant on Highway 218.
- Iowa**—Wallace Eash farm. 2 mi. E. and 1 1/2 mi. S. of Parnell.
- Jasper**—Roselle Van Dalen farm. 5 mi. S., 3 mi. E. of Newton.
Cecil Trout farm. 3 mi. E. and 1 1/4 mi. N. of Newton.
Dave Boot farm. 5 mi. W. of Prairie City.
Art Watt farm. 6 mi. W. and 2 mi. N. of Newton.
- Jones**—Muskrat Slough. 1/2 mi. S. and 3 mi. W. of Olin. (Public Hunting Area.)
- Lee**—Harold Gardner farm. 1 mi. W. of junction of Highways 2 and 61. West of Fort Madison.
L. D. Boyd farm. Sec. 14, Montrose twp. 1 mi. S. of Montrose on middle road.
Virgil Cone farm. Sec. 19, Van Buren twp. 3/4 mi. N.W. of Croton.
- Linn**—Izaak Walton League, Linn Junction. 5 mi. N.W. of Cedar Rapids on E. side of Cedar River.
- Lucas**—Alvah Chandler farm. 2 mi. S.W. of Chariton on S. 16th Street.
George Stuart farm. 1/2 mi. N. of Chariton airport.
Lewis and Stanton farm. 8 1/4 mi. S. E. of Russell.
- Mahaska**—Dr. F. C. Perkins. 1/4 mi. N. of Fremont.
Frank Jaeger farm. Near Eddyville. 3 mi. W. and 2 mi. S. of Cedar.
- Marion**—Lowell Johnson farm. 7 mi. S.W. of Knoxville.
- Marshall**—Florian Wilcox farm. 3 1/4 mi. W. of Marshalltown on old Highway 30.
Jim Cooper farm. 2 mi. W. of Marshalltown on the main street road, on N. side of road.
L. J. Barlow farm. 1/2 mi. N., 2 1/2 mi. W. of Green Mountain.
- Mills**—Warren Gregory farm. 1 mi. N. of Tabor on U.S. Highway 275.
- Muscataine**—Weise Slough Access Road. S. side of Highway 6, 1/2 mi. W. of Cedar River.
- Page**—S. of Shenandoah on Center St., cross Highway 2 and south to end of road, turn right to first corner, then left for about 3 mi. Rose on E. side of road.
- Plymouth**—Lawrence Schroeder farm. 4 mi. N. of LeMars on Highway 75 and 3 mi. W.
- Polk**—Elwood Walker farm. 2 mi. E. of Altoona.
Earl Bauer farm. 2 mi. S. of Mitchellville.

Fish-eating Birds . . .

(Continued from page 116)

age" and "improve" wildlife populations, he has upset many of those relationships and destroyed many of the natural checks and balances.

Fish, for instance, lay enormous numbers of eggs—thousands or hundreds of thousands. Not all of these hatch and, of those that do, only a few reach maturity. This is good: there cannot possibly be room or food for all of them. We see this most strikingly in inland lakes and ponds. A body of water contains just so much oxygen, food and space. If the fish in that water are to benefit from these essentials, reach maturity and keep on growing, there must be no more than a limited number of them. There are only two drumsticks on a turkey.

Injury, disease and other natural causes remove many eggs and young fry but not enough. Other fish eat them and bigger fish may eat those fish. Snapping turtles, water snakes, mammals and, especially, fish-eating birds, help remove the surplus and keep the fish population on an even keel. Without sufficient numbers of fish-eating birds and other predators, the fish in a body of water become over-crowded, stunted, thin, and not worth the taking. Sportsmen who complain of poor fishing in so many of our inland waters, and wonder why it is not as wonderful

as it was when the white man first came, forget that in those days there were great numbers of fish-eating birds—herons, egrets, bitterns, loons, mergansers and several other species of diving ducks, cormorants, grebes, terns, ospreys, bald eagles, kingfishers, gulls, crows and pelicans.

In the Chicago region, even though we have restored or created many lakes, ponds and marshes in our forest preserves, many of these big birds are uncommon or present only during part of the year. Occasionally we see a stray pelican. A few loons spend some time here on their way to and from the lonely lakes in Canada, and also, in spring and fall, a few ospreys and some bald eagles. Cormorants, mergansers, large numbers of bluebills or scaups, and some of the other diving fish-eating ducks rest and feed here during their migrations. Bitterns and three kinds of herons—the great blue, the little green, and the black-crowned night herons—are fairly common. In recent years, increasing numbers of American egrets have come up the Mississippi and Illinois valleys in mid-summer after their nesting season in the south. Some snowy egrets and little blue herons are beginning to accompany them on these "reverse migrations."

Gulls and crows are scavengers

(Continued on page 120)

- Fred Linkenfelter farm. 2 mi. S.W. of Bondurant.
H. N. Smith, Dickenson Road. West Clover Hills, Des Moines.
Ed Morningstar farm. 4 mi. N. of Des Moines.
- Poweshiek**—Earl Fowler farm. 2 1/4 mi. E. of Grinnell.
Lauren Wright farm. 2 mi. S. and 2 1/2 mi. E. of Montezuma.
- Sac**—Fred Nehman farm. 3 mi. S. of Lytton on county line road.
- Scott**—Arnold Beister farm. 1 1/4 mi. N. of Plainview in Sec. 31, Allen's Grove twp.
- Story**—Iowa State College experimental farm near Ames.
- Van Buren**—Wiley Alexander farm. 4 mi. S. and 1/2 mi. E. of Keosauqua.
Plowman farm. 3 1/2 mi. S. and 1 mi. E. of Douds.

- Wapello**—Carroll Mace farm. 5 mi. W. of Ottumwa on Highway 34. 2 mi. N., 1/2 mi. W.
McMillan Bros. farm. 1 mi. S. and 3/4 mi. E. of Bladensburg.
- Wayne**—Jim Donald farm. 2 mi. S.E. of Corydon, 1 1/2 mi. E. on Highway 2 from town square, 1/2 mi. N.
Paul Loney farm. 10 3/4 mi. S.W. of Corydon. 8 mi. W. of Corydon on Highway 2, 2 mi. S., 1/4 mi. E. 1/2 mi. S.
- Webster**—Ewald Trost farm. 1 mi. N.W. Dolliver Park, 4 1/4 mi. S.E. of Otho.
Bill Wellen farm. 2 mi. N., 7 mi. E. Fort Dodge.
- Wright**—Geo. Kyseth farm. 4 mi. S. of junction of Highway 69 and 3 mi. E. of Clarion.
R. L. Aldrich farm. 5 mi. S., 1 1/2 mi. E. of Belmond.



Rose hips from multiflora rose make excellent winter bird food.

Jim Sherman Photo.



On mature hedges, the rose blossoms make a solid eight-foot bank of pinkish-white blossoms.

Jim Sherman Photo.



Jim Sherman Photo.

The shelterhouse at Twin Lakes State Park is made of stones from the glacial drift transported by the ice sheets from the far north.

Twin Lakes . . .

(Continued from page 113)

the outer margin of the drift plain, where the glacier front stood for a long while, the country is likely to be quite hilly. This is because the ice was continually moving forward, though it melted at the margin. Thus a thick and uneven deposit of drift was built up. This part of the drift plain is known as a terminal or end moraine. The part of the drift plain back of the end moraine is much more gently rolling. This is called a ground moraine. There are many lakes among the end moraines. The Twin Lakes are notably exceptional in being out in the ground moraine area. The last glacier in this part of Iowa moved toward the southwest and its terminal moraine is about 30 miles away in Sac County.

The lakes are unique in that there are no streams running into

them. They are spring-fed. Water falling as rain in the surrounding country soaks into the subsoil, and eventually seeps into the lakes.

It should be pointed out these lakes lie in the area covered by the last glacier to come down from the north. This was only about 12,000 years ago. So the country around the lakes has not had time in which to be affected by post-glacial stream erosion.

The park consists of three areas on the southeast side of the lake. The largest, the one with the bathing beach, is about twenty acres. This has a shelter house made of stones from the drift. These are of many kinds. They are from the solid rock of the earth's crust of country far to the north. The glacier transported them to this vicinity.

It is easy to see some of the changes that the lake has undergone since it first came into



Jim Sherman Photo.

There is no high land around Twin Lakes and the low shores were originally protected by a "wall." Many of the rocks from the "wall" were removed by early settlers for foundation stone.

existence. Wherever there is a bluff along the lake shore we may be sure that it has been formed by the wearing action of the waves. This is notable at the small picnic area to the north. Fortunately there is no high land around the lake, so the bluffs are not high. Furthermore, not much sediment has been carried into the lake through erosion of the shores. In many places trees growing on the shores tend to slow up erosion.

Erosion of the shores, however, will continue as long as the wind stirs up the waves. Also, any water which runs into the lake will carry in sediment. So in time there will be no lake, unless the accumulating sediment is dredged out.

This lake was originally one of the "wall" lakes of Iowa. These "wall" lakes get their name from the wall of rocks that the settlers found along the shores. These were pushed shoreward by ice. In places also the ice pushing against low bluffs raised a ridge. Such an ice-pushed ridge can be seen along the shore in the large picnic area.

Nothing has been said of the ancient seas which once spread over North America. The deposits left by these ancient seas can be seen in many parts of Iowa, in the form of limestone, shale, and sandstone. But there are none to be seen in the vicinity of Twin

Lakes State Park, nor for that matter in all of Calhoun County. However, they are penetrated in wells. So we know that there was once a much larger body of water, in fact a sea, where there is now Twin Lakes with its attractive park.

Not only once, but many times the sea spread over this area. Thus the vicinity of Twin Lakes State Park, with its glacial deposits, the interesting boulders brought by the glacial ice, the drift surface capable of holding a lake, and the underlying bedrock formed of deposits laid in the sea, has a story of interest for any visitor.

Fish-eating Birds . . .

(Continued from page 119)

and very numerous at all times. They frequent our garbage dumps. They clean up all the dead fish in our waters, but even the gulls seldom catch a live fish unless it is a cripple or unless a school of small ones is found swimming near the surface. Kingfishers, however, constantly patrol our streams and lakes; swooping down to seize small fish and pursuing them underwater. We need more kingfishers.

These birds are stream bankers that keep checks and balances.—*Nature Bulletin, Forest Preserve District, Cook County.*



Jim Sherman Photo.

(Baby American Bitterns) "Without sufficient numbers of fish-eating birds and other predators, fish become overcrowded, stunted, thin and not worth taking."