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September, 1957

Number 9

## ARLAN RESIGNS **OMMISSION POST**

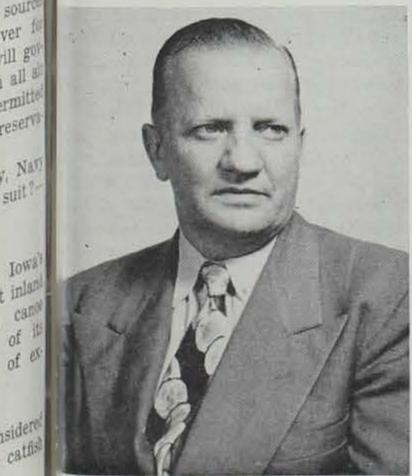
James R. (Jim) Harlan has rerned his position as Assistant rector of the Conservation Comssion to accept a position as nservation consultant to the S. Public Health Service Water pply and Pollution Control Proam in Washington, D. C.

His resignation was effective ptember 18.

Harlan has served as Assistant rector of the Commission since 48. He also held the position of sperintendent of Public Relations om 1941 until his appointment as ssistant Director, and served as Conservation Officer at Storm ake from 1937 to 1941.

In terms of service to Iowa, arlan's employment dates back 1929 when he was appointed useum Apprentice with what is w known as the State Departent of History and Archives. uring his service to this departent, he also held the positions of useum Assistant and Acting Di-

Harlan is co-author of the book owa Fish and Fishing" and was strumental in beginning the telesion program "Outdoor Talk" in 054. Harlan has served as modator of the program throughout s entire production. He also rved as the first editor of the WA CONSERVATIONIST and was ie of the central figures in iginating and developing the ommission's State Fair and traving wildlife exhibits.



James R. (Jim) Harlan

# Set Viking Lake Dedication



view of Viking Lake State Park which will be officially dedicated at 2 p.m., October 13. The 950-acre area includes a 150-acre lake. The picnic area, as well as bathing beach and parking facilities were completed for use this summer.

2:00-2:30 p.m. ......Band Music

### DEDICATION PROGRAM

	Red Oak, Villisca and	1 Stanton High School Bands
Master	of Ceremonies	Lynn D. Hull, Villisca
History	y of Viking Lake State P	arkGus Kuester, Griswold
Present	tation to State	
		State Conservation Commission
Accepta	ance and Dedication	Herschel C. Loveless
		Governor of Iowa
Flag R	Raising Ceremony	Boy Scouts
-		llisca and Red Oak

Benediction......Rev. Lyman Smith, Emerson

## ANGLER TO JUDGE: "JUST PRACTICING"

A district court judge reported this novel alibi by an angry angler who had just been cited by a wildlife protection officer:

"Judge, I didn't deserve this," the Sacramento Bee quoted him as telling the judge. "It says here I was fishing without a license. I've never been fishing before and I wasn't then.

"Sure, I had a line with a baited hook in the water, but I was just practicing. If I decided that I liked fishing, I was gonna get me a license. And that doggone game warden went and gave me a ticket. It's not fair.—Outdoor California.

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## GOVERNOR LOVELESS TO SPEAK AT EVENT

Viking Lake State Park will be dedicated with an official dedicatory program at 2 p.m. Sunday, October 13, at the site of Iowa's newest recreational area, four miles east and a mile south of Stanton in Montgomery county.

The 950-acre project was constructed at a cost of about \$415,000 and has been about three years in building. Roads, parking areas, bathing beach on the 150-acre Viking Lake, and picnic area with 75 tables and 25 fireplaces were completed and put into use this summer. A service building and small, five-room residence are under construction at the present time.

Work on Viking Lake started February 20, 1956, and was completed October 14, 1956. The spillway was completed May 6, 1957 and impoundment of water began immediately.

A total of 297,000 cubic yards of earth was moved in its construction. The lake has a maximum depth of 46 feet and a shore line of four and one-half miles. The lake's dam is 400 feet wide, 55 feet high and 1,250 feet long.

Iowa Governor Herschel C. Loveless will make the dedicatory address and will accept the new state park on behalf of the citizens of Iowa. George V. Jeck, chairman of the State Conservation Commission, will present the new park to Iowa, Lynn D. Hull of Villisca, will serve as master of ceremonies at the dedication.

O. N. Hultman is serving as chairman of the dedication committee. Dr. P. O. Swanson is serving as vice-chairman. Both are from Stanton.

A total of 15 Iowa communities are represented on the dedication committee, including Shenandoah, Villisca, Red Oak, Stanton, Clarinda, Elliott, Emerson, Henderson, Carson, Glenwood, Griswold, Atlantic, Corning, Grant and Bedford.

Which the transfer to proper the Parish and the same restrict server the property of the prope

### Iowa Conservationist

Published Monthly by the IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION East 7th and Court-Des Moines, Iowa (No Rights Reserved) HERSCHEL C. LOVELESS, Governor

BRUCE STILES, Director KEITH SUTHERLAND, Editor EVELYN BOUCHER, Associate Editor

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## FINAL RITES HELD FOR "CHARLIE" KING

Funeral services were held in Des Moines August 29 for C. L. "Charlie" King, Area Fisheries Manager for southern Iowa and long-time Commission employee.

"Charlie" had been in poor health since suffering a stroke in May. He was 66.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret; a daughter, Mrs. Madeleine Hohenhorst of Palatine, Ill., and a brother, Norris, of Allegan, Mich.

"Charlie's" service to the Commission totaled 24 years. He first joined the employ of the Commission January 1, 1933 as a supervisor of seining. He also had served as a District Fisheries Culturist from January 1, 1946 until his appointment as Area Fisheries Manager on April 1, 1948.



C. L. (Charlle) King

Born in Keokuk, "Charlie" often was referred to as "Mr. Basketball" because of his skill at the sport as a Keokuk high athlete. He continued competition in basketball at Iowa State College, participating in every scheduled game and earning a major varsity letter in 1912. He also participated in football, baseball and track-in addition to basketball-during the 1910-11 seasons at Iowa State.



Browns Slough will serve as the control area during the 1957 waterfowl shooting experiment. Eighteen three-man blinds will be placed on the area with an accurate check made of hunter success on this as well as the Colyn area. Results will help Col servation Commission personnel in their search for the best method of managing the smaller slough areas of the state.

MARSH EXPERIMENT

## DUCK

#### William H. Aspelmeier Unit Game Manager

"The ducks won't come in-too many people sloshing around!" "We had a good spot, then someone moved in almost in our lap and shot at the ducks we decoyed!" "Hunters were so close together they sprayed each other with shot!" These are some of the comments

heard during and after every such discussions the pros and con waterfowl season. Other statements, using a different language, are heard more and more often. Each year Iowa's waterfowl marshes become more crowded.

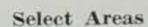
Almost all duck hunters have ideas on how to improve the crowded conditions and the manners of some hunters. In many

of controlled hunting are brough

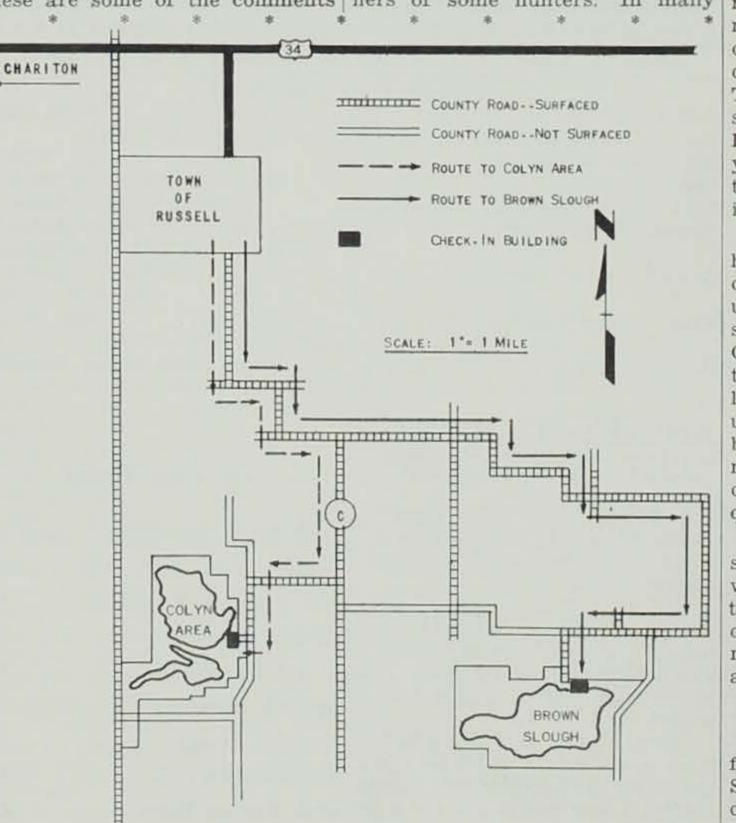
One system of controlled huntin on state-owned marshes is the provision of blinds by the State Cor servation Department. The hunter are assigned blinds and all huntin is done only from these blinds wit no one wandering about. This method of waterfowl hunting is i operation under various condition over much of the United State The Iowa Conservation Commis sion used this system on Forne Lake in Fremont county for sever years but no check was availab to compare the results with hun ing on areas without regulation.

As might be expected controlle hunting is praised by some an condemned by others, depending upon point of view and huntin success. The basic policy of th Conservation Commission has bee to hold down on restrictions ar let waterfowl hunting be as na ural as possible. Increasing nun bers of waterfowl hunters on Iow marshes is leading to mor crowded conditions that may r quire restrictive regulations.

During the 1957 waterfowl sea son the Conservation Commission will put an experiment into opera tion designed to gather information on which to base future manag ment and hunting on waterfov areas.



Two areas have been selecte for this experiment. Brown Slough, a 200 acre area in Luci county, will be set up with blinds provided. The Colyn Are 210 acres, and three miles west Browns Slough will be the check



Map of the Colyn-Browns Slough area shows best routes to follow to checking stations on both areas. Copies of the map are available by writing to William Aspelmeier, Russell, Iowa.



he Colyn Area is situated about three miles from Browns Slough, is of comparable size, and in the same Chariton River valley. At xtreme left is a refuge area. Between the refuge and Colyn Area, the Chariton River may be seen. Public shooting, on the same asis as former years, will be offered at Colyn during the lowa waterfowl season, October 5 through December 13.

ontrolled. Both areas are about he same size, have similar physial characteristics, are in the Chariton river floodplain, and are urrounded by agricultural lands hat are alike.

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On Browns Slough 18 three-man hunti olinds will be provided. These the polinds are spaced to insure safety ate color the hunters and to cover as e hunter nuch of the 200 acres as possible. huntil Each morning at one hour before inds will sunrise one man from each hunting party, of not more than three per-

rea on which hunting will not be | ples. At the end of the hunt the | the Colyn Area will be the same harvest of waterfowl will be as on any uncontrolled marsh in counted and the man hours hunted the state except that the hunters will be recorded.

> The drawing for blinds each day will be on a first come, first serve basis until the 18 blinds are assigned. No more waterfowl hunters will be allowed than those who occupy the blinds. Each hunter will be required to pay one dollar per person per day for the use of the blinds.

On the Colyn Area all hunters at. B party will draw for a blind and must check in and obtain a hunting | couraged. No motors are allowed ting is receive a hunting permit. This permit to use the area. Numbers of hunters using the area will not sons, must then hunt from their be restricted and each hunter may plind except in the pursuit of crip- hunt where he wishes. Hunting on

William Aspelmeier, Unit Game Manager of the Colyn Area, puts the finishing touches on one of the 18 duck blinds to be placed on Browns Slough.

must check in and out. Harvest of waterfowl and man hours hunted will also be recorded here.

Upland Game

Upland game hunters will be allowed to use the upland habitat on both areas but must check in and out.

Waterfowl hunters on both areas should bring their own boats and decoys. The use of dogs is enon either area.

This experimental operation will provide some valuable data for comparison of the two methods of hunting. The two areas are alike, they are close together and are in the same river flyway. Under these conditions some pressing questions should be answered. Which method provides the most hunting on a per acre basis? Which system provides for a more even harvest of waterfowl? Which type hunting makes waterfowl shooting the most enjoyable to the most people? What are the extra costs of providing blinds and services and are hunters willing to pay for the use of these facilities?

### FISHING IS A MUST

According to former President Herbert Hoover, fishing is a must for all Presidents because the American people have respect for privacy on only two occasionswhen a man is praying or when he's fishing. And the President can't pray all the time.—Colorado Outdoors.

The popular notion that geese are "silly" is misleading for careful observation indicates they are above average in intelligence and are resourceful in the face of danger.

## 1957 Pheasant Season

Regulations for the 1957 seasons on pheasants, quail and Hungarian partridge have been announced by the Conservation Commission with little change from the 1956-57 sea-

Open season on pheasants in the long zone counties will be from November 9 through December 2, 1957; in the short zone counties, from November 9 through November 21, 1957. Shooting hours will be from 12 o'clock noon to 4:30 p.m. daily in each zone. Bag and possession limits in each zone also is the same with three cock birds.

Long zone counties include Lyon, Osceola, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, Winnebago, Worth, Mitchell, Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Chickasaw, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Palo Alto, Clay, O'Brien, Sioux, Plymouth, Cherokee, Buena Vista, Pocahontas, Humboldt, Wright, Franklin, Butler, Bremer, Woodbury, Ida, Sac, Calhoun, Webster, Hamilton, Hardin, Grundy, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton, Scott, Jones, Linn, Benton, Tama, Marshall, Story, Boone, Greene, Carroll, Crawford, Monona, Shelby, Audubon, Guthrie, Jasper, Poweshiek, Iowa, Johnson, Cedar, Muscatine, Cass, Adair, Adams, Union and Taylor.

Short zone counties include Harrison, Pottawattamie, Madison, Clarke, Lucas, Ringgold, Decatur, Wayne, Louisa, Washington, Keokuk, Mahaska, Dallas, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, Page, Monroe, Appanoose, Polk, Warren, and Marion.

Open season for quail will be from November 2 through December 16, 1957, in the long zone; from November 2 through November 16, 1957 in the short zone. Hunting will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily in each zone with a bag and possession limit of six birds in each

Long zone counties include Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Tama, Benton, Linn, Jones, Jackson, Monona, Harrison, Guthrie, Dallas, Polk, Jasper, Poweshiek, Iowa, Johnson, Cedar, Clinton, Scott, Muscatine, Louisa, Washington, Keokuk, Mahaska, Marion, Warren, Madison, Adair, Cass, Pottawattamie, Mills, Montgomery, Adams, Union, Clarke, Lucas, Monroe, Wapello, Jefferson, Henry, Des Moines, Lee, Van Buren, Davis, Appanoose, Wayne, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, Page and Fremont.

Short zone counties include Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Chickasaw, Fayette, Clayton, Bremer, Black Hawk, Story and Marshall.

The 1957 season on Hungarian partridge will be from November 9 through November 18, 1957, in 11 counties of the state. Shooting hours will be from 12 o'clock noon to 4:30 p.m. daily, with bag and (Continued on page 166)



The turkey vulture wouldn't win many beauty prizes, but he's one of the most important members of nature's clean-up detail. Work of such carrion-eaters as owls, buzzards, crows, foxes and opossum is so complete it is often unnoticed by humans.

## NO WASTE THANKS TO CLEAN-UP CORPS

### NEW BOOKLET ON SHOOTING IS FREE

The why, where, when, and how of rifle shooting for boys and girls is contained in an attractive and readable booklet, "Shooting Fun for Everyone," recently released by the Sportsmen's Service Bureau.

Designed for young readers, the booklet presents helpful word and line sketches on the history of marksmanship in America and tells youngsters how shooting clubs can be organized and where information and assistance can be obtained. Subsequent pages dwell on fundamental firing positions, rifle tournaments and games, hunting trips, and rifle selection. Bolstering the text are all sorts of shooting safety reminders and firearms information.

Free copies of the booklet can be requested from the Sportsmen's Service Bureau, 250 East 43rd Street, New York 17, New York. Distribution is limited to the United States.



The most remarkable sanitary department in the world is Nature's clean-up corps of birds, animals, reptiles and insects. The casual weekend outdoorsman never pauses to think that the fields and woods and streams would lose much of their attractiveness without this twenty-four hour service provided by the wildfolk that use the unchartered trails in the sky, on the ground and under the water.

In early morning twilight the toll along the highways will reveal countless rabbits, opossums and other nocturnal travelers. These fresh carcasses generally are picked by crows or buzzards, and this is the extent to which the average person is acquainted with Nature's Clean-up Corps. But there are many other creatures, not to mention mold and bacteria, working to keep the outer places clean.

In the air are such natural scavengers as buzzards, gulls, crows, red-tailed hawks, barred owls, screech owls, carrion flies, and the like. On the land are found such as the opossum, foxes, skunks, dung beetles, ants and other insects. In the water are crayfish, turtles, catfish, eels, etc. We have seen the astonishing spectacle of two dozen eels emerging hastily from the swollen carcass of a dead horse, when it was struck with an oar.

Demised wildlife on the highways soon disappears. It's nature's sanitary corps at work.

Since deer shed their antlers annually the natural inquiry is what becomes of numerous racks thus dropped in the woods-it is rare that they are seen. The answer seems to be that they are eaten by the smaller wood folks; mice, squirrels and other rodents have a special liking for these antlers due,

some say, to the calcium or salt content.

### Highway Toll

It is rare that one sees a dead creature in the outdoors, although many living things fall daily in the struggle for survival and from disease and bitter weather conditions. Only on highways and in times of unusual disasters are we reminded that death visits the wild animals, birds and fishes as well as the human race, and in these cases it is usually man's constant presence that deters the swift work of nature's sanitary engineers.

In nature, nothing is ever wasted. The greatest trouble among all living things is to get enough food, even among humans. Directly or indirectly every living thing is potential food for another living thing and whether it is killed for that purpose or dies from some other cause it is converted into nourishment as flesh to be eaten, or nutrients to be absorbed and made into plant tissue. The wild creatures which eat animals after they are killed or have died in any way except through predation, are called scavengers, and their work, while not exactly pretty, is indispensable.

Some of the animals of this profession are well known. Others are seldom observed at their work. The buzzard's whole existence depends on finding enough dead animals for food; his special equipment-telescopic eyes and ability to soar timelessly above earthis geared to that end and he is perhaps the best scavenger of them

The butterfly is so colorful, fragile and dainty, that few would ever suspect him of being a roistering drunkard, an inveterate inebriate, to say nothing of a carrion It is done so well that the knowl and eater. Yet, some species do feed on juices exuded from dead flesh, die is more easily arrived at b Exc and go on terrific sprees as a result of imbibing the fermented sap | However, in spite of the fact that and R from various plants. The amount of carrion disposed of by butterflies is, however, too small to be of much notice.

Next to the buzzard, the opossum is probably the champion scavenger of them all, in fact, he is almost as non-selective in his diet as hogs or domestic chickens. Most hunters know that the carcass of a farm animal is a favorite dining place for opossums; trappers frequently bait their sets with "ripe" flesh, the more odorous the better. Snakes, frogs, birdseven his own kind—all dead things are grist to the opossum's hungry mill, and the great number of this group and their ground-searching habits probably lead them to most of the carcasses in the woods sooner or later.

### Clean Streams

numerous. All the large catfish will take dead flesh, while channel cats are enticed in proportion to the ripeness of the material, savoring the more spicy bits as an epicure does cheese-of which the

channel cat is also a connoisseur. Turtles will consume meat not too far gone, while crayfish do about the cleanest job of bone stripping imaginable.

Crows, jays and sometimes redtailed hawks work on fresh carcasses as do many other birds at some time or other in their lives Foxes, wolves, and roving dogs will take carrion when fresh meal is not readily available, and wil frequently perfume themselves with very lush specimens, rolling in the material, with every evidence of extreme delight. Prac tically all the carnivorous animal work on bones as well as flesh.

In times of emergency-cole weather, deep snow, shortage o natural food-almost all rules are off. In tough situations rabbit have been seen feeding on the car casses of other animals, along witl quail, cardinals and other birds.

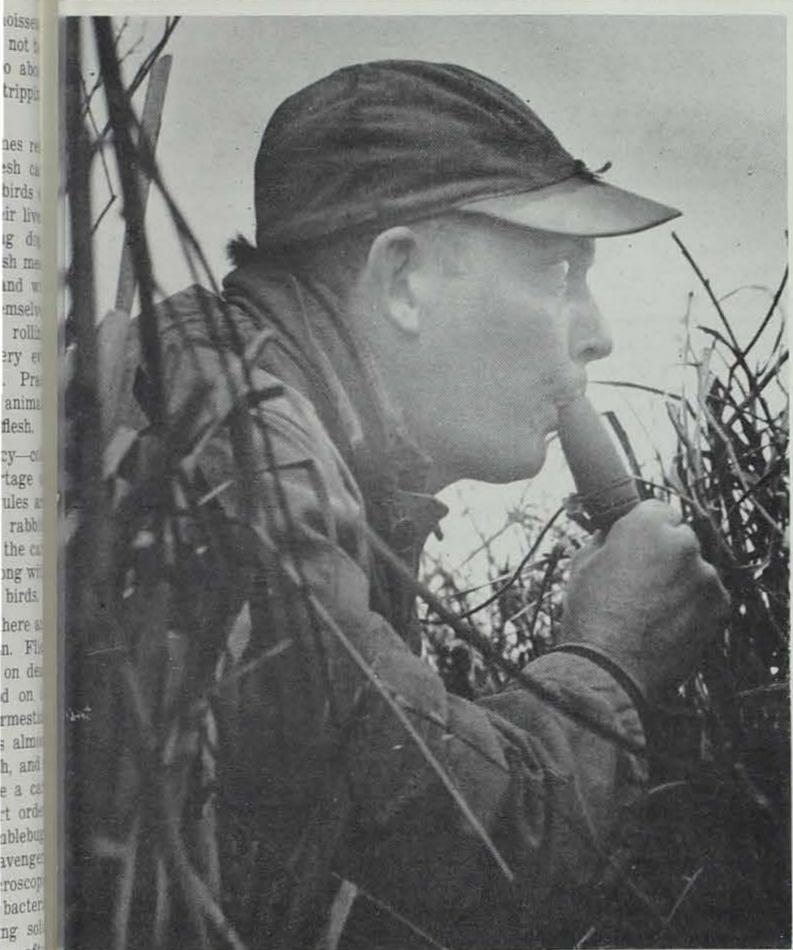
In the world of insects, there are many that feed on carrion. Flie and others lay their eggs on dead meat, and the larvae feed on it Carrion beetles and Dermestid strip the flesh from bones almos as efficiently as do crayfish, and swarm of ants can reduce a car cass to a skeleton in short order In the days of horses, tumblebug were the most famous scavenger of them all. Even the microscopic putrefying molds and bacteria play their part in reducing solic flesh to gas and liquids, after which they find their way into the har the soil and plants and start the cycl sign all over again,

### Usually Unnoticed

This work is carried on so se A 7 cretly that it is usually unnotice manin by the casual person out of doors broug edge that all animals eventuall comm reasoning than by observation ad D relatively few animals die natura 1877 deaths, the number killed by fac ame tors other than predation is con Dur siderable.

Probably the greatest contribu tion to the scavenger material made by man. Crippling losse lase (which usually mean a dead anima for later) in hunting may run as hig ther as 50 per cent of the entire numbe doods shot. Frequently even anima seed cleanly killed in heavy cover at the not recovered. Kill of rabbits b lalls traffic is enormous and the number tour of snakes, turtles, rough fish an luck other species killed by man is als Bag high. Poisonous substances intre line duced into water habitats an mit drainage explosions and other by lack products of man's activity ki Two large numbers of aquatic animal lolud as do rough methods of handlin ag unwanted fish in removing ther the In the streams, scavengers are from the hook. Against the total lati of these deaths of wild creature Bag from causes other than predatio bulk comparatively small. Finally in the case of fur-bearers and gam brought to bag, parts or entir three

(Continued on page 166)



ew things can equal the heart-throbbing excitement of ducks rocking on cupped rings in response to the hunter's decoys and gentle "chuckle." Good water levels nd a good hatch in Canada Indicate that the 1957 lowa waterfowl season may be one of the best in many years.

## Waterfowl Season 1957

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A 70-day waterfowl season beinning October 5 and continuing hrough December 13 has been nnounced by the Conservation Commission.

Except for season dates and bag nd possession limits of American nd Red-breasted Mergansers, the 957 regulations are essentially the ame as last year.

During the 1957 waterfowl season, hunting will be permitted each lay (including opening day) from ne-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Daily bag limit of ducks | HABITAT IMPROVEMENT s four. Possession limit of ducks, after the first day is eight. One Hooded Merganser may be possessed. As in 1956, a closed season will exist on Ross' Geese, Grebes, Rails (except Coot), Gallinules, Mourning Dove, Woodcock, Wood Duck, and Swan.

Bag and possession limit of geese in is als s five. Not more than two of the es intro imit may be Canada, Hutchins', Cackling, or White-fronted Geese. Two of any of the above may be ncluded in the limit. The entire bag may be made up of either Blue or Snow Geese or any comng the bination of them. the tota

Bag and possession limit of Coot or Mudhen is ten.

crestures predation Open season on Wilson's Snipe Finally or Jacksnipe will be from October through November 3, 1957. Bag and possession limit is eight. 12, D. C., at 10 cents a copy.

Daily shooting hours are the same as for ducks and geese.

Iowa hunters may take five American and Red-breasted Mergansers daily and have ten in possession, singly or in aggregate of both kinds. This regulation is in addition to the bag and possession limits of other ducks.

In addition to state regulations, hunters are required to have in possession a valid 1957 duck stamp. The stamps are available at postoffices for \$2.

## BOOKLET AVAILABLE

"Habitat Improvement-Key to Game Abundance" by Werner O. Nagel, of the Missouri Conservation Commission, presents a readable and highly informative discussion of the four principal factors-food, cover, water, and living space—that determine the relative abundance and distribution of game animals. Delving into the shortcomings of predator control, game laws, and artificial propagation, Nagel summarizes, "Habitat improvement is neither so easy, attractive, nor spectacular, but it has one important advantage the others do not-it works."

The booklet is available from the National Wildlife Federation, 232 Carroll Street, N.W., Washington

## CAUTION, CURIOSITY -AND SQUIRRELS

Keith C. Sutherland, Editor

In September when Jack Frost dips from his artist's palette to transform woodlands into a symphony of color and the clear morning chill snips at the noses of quick-stepping Iowans - the "crackling" of rifle fire resounds along the timbered ridges, indicating that squirrels are once again the nimrod's fare.

There's something about squirrel hunting that just naturally fits into the fall picture of things. Particularly early squirrel hunting.

It comes at a time when the angler receives something of a bonus, what with fall fishing in full sway and usually highly productive. Yet the angler, if he's so inclined, can lay aside the old rod and revel in the luxury of two outdoor sports.

For the non-fisherman, the squirrel season ushers in fall hunting that he has yearned for since the end of last year's shooting. For him, it signals the opportunity to sharpen up the old shooting eye for pheasant, quail and waterfowl seasons still to come.

The squirrel season also rolls around at a time when there exists a multitude of little tasks around the household. You know, the "little woman" outlines the day's program something like this: wash

and put up the storms, rake the yard, clean the attic, get the longneglected coat of wax on the flivver before winter, and ad infinitum.

Now this may be all well and good for the industrious husband, but these are few this time of year. For most, one thought of the "bushy-tail" and one "peep" about what's on the day's docket only makes the lazy slower and the slow come to a screeching halt.

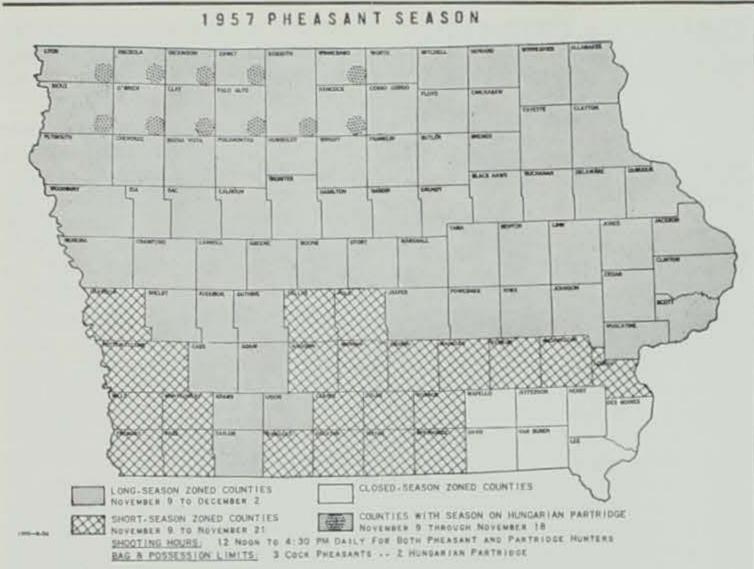
While we have no desire to be target for the wrath of the "little woman" about neglected housework, we do think that when this overpowering attitude sweeps over the "man of the house" he may just as well be enjoying the lazy sport of squirrel hunting in the outdoors. And don't be surprised if he picks up a healthier attitude about the household chores somewhere in that favorite timber! He may not set any records getting the work done when he gets home, but he may at least voice an honest intention to do better, particularly after a meal of fresh, pan-fried squirrel and squirrel gravy is tucked away in his innards. And that's probably more progress than he'd made if he'd stayed home, anyway!

So we let the work go for another day, don neutral clothes, and hie ourselves out to relax and make lazy under a brilliant blue sky and warming September sun.

There's one point that needs a (Continued on page 167)



lowa "bushy-tails" are prime eating. To insure best eating qualities, field dress them immediately. Many hunters carry a cellophane bag to put them in and to keep them clean for the trip home.



### SURVEY SHOWS STUDENT DESIRE FOR FIREARMS

In a recent survey by the Institute of Student Opinion of 4,262 students in 24 schools across the country they discovered that 38.8% of Junior High boys hope to get a .22 rifle within the year. 23.1% expect a watch, 5.6% a bicycle, 28% a fountain pen, 7.7% a typewriter, and 11% a camera. High school seniors interviewed revealed a total of 25.8% expected to get guns during the year.

This points up the popularity of hunting and shooting as sports, and also indicates there is a drastic need to teach boys and girls safe gun handling. It has been proven time and time again that it pays to give youngsters gun safety lessons. If we give them guns, and we have little choice in the matter, it is our duty to teach them gun safety or enroll them in a firearm safety class .- Ohio Conservation Bulletin.

When rising from water or land, the shoveller ducks springs vertically with a strong upward bound and darts away with a swift, erden downward plunges.

## Pheasants

(Continued from page 163) possession limit of two birds. Open counties include Lyon, Sioux, Osceola, O'Brien, Dickinson, Clay, Emmet, Palo Alto, Kossuth, Winnebago and Hancock.

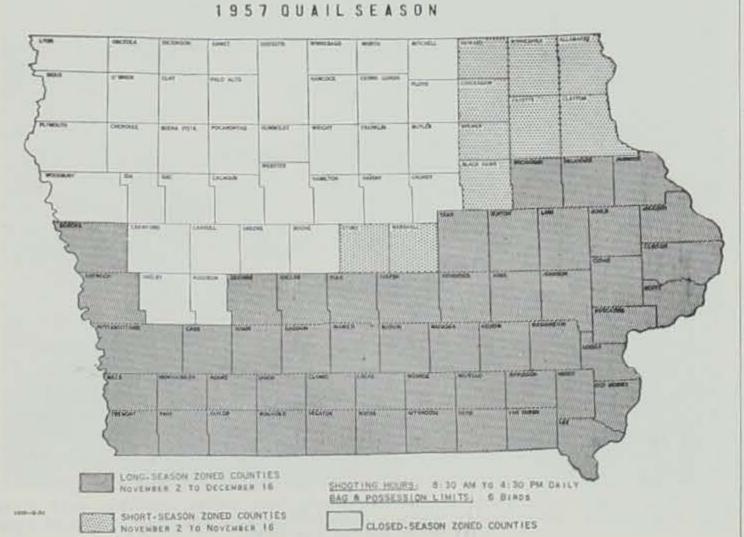
Also announced at the same time as the above seasons were regulations on raccoon, squirrel and rabbit hunting.

RACCOON-Open entire state for hunting only from 12 o'clock noon, October 26, to midnight February 10, 1958. No daily bag or possession limit. See trapping regulations for raccoon trapping season.

SQUIRREL-Open season for gray and fox squirrel from September 14 through November 15, 1957. Bag limit is six per day; possession limit after the first day is 12. Entire state open.

RABBIT-Open season for cottontail and jackrabbit from September 14 through January 31, 1958. Shooting hours from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Bag limit, 10 per day. No possession limit. Entire state open.

Trout requires water that does ratic flight, punctuated with sud- not become warmer than 70 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit.



## TRAPPING IN 1957-58

Regulations for the 1957-58 trapping season have been announced by the Conservation Commission. Included are laws governing trapping of mink, muskrat, beaver, badger, skunk, opossum, civet cat, raccoon, weasel, fox, ground hog, coyote and otter.

MINK-MUSKRAT—Open on the Mississippi river east of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad tracks from the Minnesota state line to the south city limits that your shot struck the target of the city of Davenport from 12 o'clock noon, December 1, 1957, to midnight, December 31, 1957. Remainder of the state open from 12 o'clock noon, December 1, 1957, to midnight, December 15, 1957.

BEAVER — Open entire state from 12 o'clock noon, December 1, 1957, to midnight, March 1, 1958.

BADGER, SKUNK, OPOSSUM, CIVET CAT-12 o'clock noon, November 10, 1957, to midnight, January 10, 1958.

RACCOON—Open season from 12 o'clock noon, November 10, 1957, until midnight, February 10, 1958. Water sets permitted only during the open season for mink and muskrat. See hunting regulations for hunting season on raccoon.

WEASEL, RED FOX, GRAY FOX, GROUND HOG, WOLF-COYOTE-Continuous open season, entire state.

OTTER-Continuous closed season, entire state.

## Nimrod "All Shook Up" By A Busy Beaver

A fish story with a new twist came to the editor's desk recently from Missouri.

Fishing from a boat and minding his own business, a river fisherman was suddenly struck by a falling tree. The boat sank but the fisherman was rescued, not seriously injured, just "all shook up."

Investigation of the fallen tree revealed that it had been cut almost to the falling point by our old friends the busy beavers.

### Clean-up Corps (Continued from page 164)

carcasses are often thrown away, to become carrion.

Yet, whatever the size of the burden, whatever the cause of death, wild scavengers are apparently not fussy. Food is food, no matter what its source or what its name or how it came to die. By the automatic unreasoning functioning of these necessary cogs in nature's machine, all creatures are benefited.

As for man, he can thank scavengers for putting to good use the victims of some of his mistakes, and for maintaining the outdoors in a wholesome condition for his continued enjoyment.-W. O. Nagel, Missouri Conservation Commission.

## CALLING SHOTS BY THE "CLOCK" SYSTEM

The clock system is used for accurately describing the location of a shot on a target. Imagine that the target is the face of a clock with 12 o'clock directly above the bull's-eye, 6 o'clock directly below the bull's-eye, 3 o'clock to the right of the bull's-eye, and so on. Then if your coach who is spotting for you calls out that you have an eight at 9 o'clock, you will know in the 8-ring directly to the left of the bull's-eye.

For outdoor shooting the same system is used for indicating the direction of the wind. Imagine the range as the face of a clock, with you at the center, the target at 12 o'clock, 3 o'clock to the right of you, and 9 o'clock to your left. If were the wind is blowing from the tar-, minim get toward you, it is a 12 o'clock wind; if it is blowing across the Son range from your left, it is a 9 o'clock wind. Then if you tell a friend that it was a cloudy day lear with a gusty wind veering from 9 to 12 o'clock, he will have a clear sir idea of the conditions under which when you were shooting.-Wildlife Crusader.

## FISHING, BOATING TOP U.S. SPORTS

According to figures credited to Bill Furlong of the Chicago Daily News, by the Minneapolis Star for July 15, "the distant wind of ob livion" is slowly overtaking base leth ball as the touted national sport Fir Many folks, of course, are still in terested in the game of baseball and But they now spend most of their time and money on other sports.

For example, sport fishing at Mir tracts about 25,000,000 people of the all ages. They spend \$2 billion annually-more than 25 times as la much money as on baseball.

Boating fans spend about 26 Mace times as much money as basebal land fans. There are more people who went own pleasure boats in the U. S than people who attend majo at league baseball games.

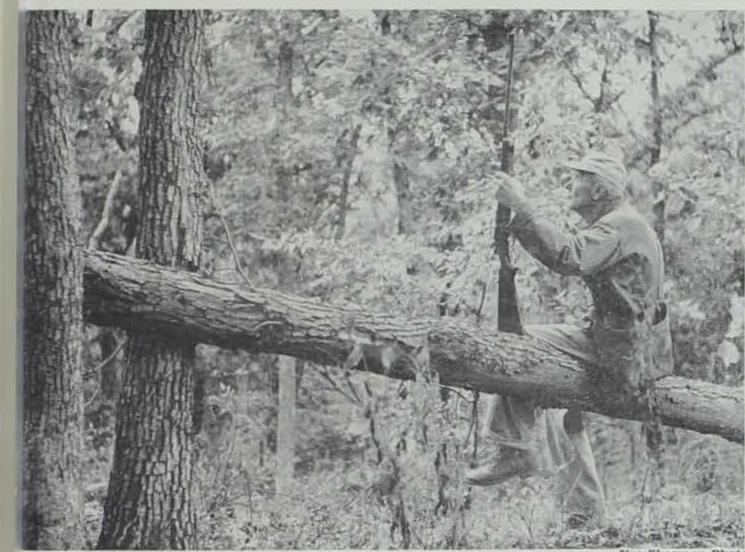
Golfers spend about six times a W much money on their sport as base ball fans spend on theirs. Bowler spend four times as much.

There can be little doubt tha down fishing and boating-closely allie was activities-are the major foca han points of outdoor recreational in the terest in the U. S. today .- Spor luct Fishing Institute Bulletin.

### GOVERNOR FOSS VISITS CONSERVATION EXHIBIT

South Dakota Governor Joe Fos visited the Iowa Conservation Commission's traveling exhibi during a July showing at Exira i Audubon county.

Foss left the exhibit with a hig regard for it. In fact, he observe to exhibit personnel, it might be good example for his state to copy



ake no mistake about it, studying trees and waiting is one of the most effective ays of hunting squirrels. If our hunter remains quiet and keeps movement to a inimum, things should 'pop' within a half-hour. If squirrels are not seen in that time, he would do well to seek another spot.

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(Continued from page 165)

et Squirrel hunting-successful eap of understanding at the outquirrel hunting—is indeed lazy usiness! Laziness, particularly then applied to squirrel hunting, onnotes a couple of things-slow novement with frequent stops and airly long periods of sitting and vaiting.

Emphasis on the sitting and vaiting should probably be made ince (1) it gets us into our story a Ittle handier, and (2) it is probbly the most popular and cerainly one of the most productive nethods of hunting squirrels.

Find a good spot, like a woodlot's oundary between timber and a ornfield, plant yourself down unler a tree, lean back and wait. Vithin a half-hour, you should see quirrels moving through the "run" -that is, if you're ever going to ee them! If you don't have luck he first half-hour, you would probably do well to seek another place. Under ordinary circumstances though, you should see plenty of squirrel traffic across the 'run" or "lane" as they scamper to and from the timber and their linner table.

Waiting, of course, requires patience, and this attribute the squirrel hunter must have. It may be some consolation for the hunter to know that for every minute spent in waiting there is that much more chance of success. Because of time lost that otherwise might be productive in another area, however, a wait longer than half an hour won't put many squirrels in the bag by quitting time.

### Creek Areas

Other areas in or near timber that are productive are those situated near creeks. This is particularly true during hot days which bring squirrels out in search of water. Place yourself where you can get a good view of a stretch of creek or be alert for squirrels when you walk such stretches and you get that good, clean shot. And muddy waters.

you can have some sporty shooting.

If you happen to be the type of hunter who prefers to "walk hunt," it's doubly important that your clothing blends well and that you let caution be your guide. Don't make the mistake of moving too fast, but carefully stalk your quarry as slowly and silently as you can. Perhaps the most common fault of all hunters is a tendency to work too fast for their game. A fast gait may get you from one end of the woodlot to the other in a hurry, but you'll leave plenty of squirrels behind to watch your departure-squirrels that got the "tip-off" of your approach by sudden movements long ago and had plenty of time to get out of sight.

When you walk, do it with a heel-and-toe action and avoid stepping on dry sticks that might give away your approach. Most squirrel hunters like light, comfortable shoes (sneakers are considered good) that help them walk as stealthily as possible. Be alert to any movement on the ground or in the trees. As you walk, stop often and study each tree carefully from the ground as far up as you can see. Study each crotch and follow each limb out to its end. Look for out-of-the-ordinary shaped knots or bulges on trees, both trunks and limbs. With practice, the hunter often can detect squirrels silhouetted against the sky if he trains his eyes to watch for irregularly shaped and furry bulges on tops and sides of limbs. Skilled eyes can also penetrate fairly dense foliage for any tell-tale color that is confirmed with a little study as a hiding "bushy-tail." And watch for that "bushy" tail that is so often a dead giveaway. Squirrels do an equitable job of it, but they frequently have trouble getting their tails completely out of sight.

Continue to be cautious even after you have identified your quarry. Move in carefully until

absolutely sure that it will travel without harming humans or livestock—take another angle or pass up the shot! There is always anful, considerate hunter!

#### Futile Efforts

spend much time at his sport before he discovers that certain things that he does or is tempted to do might just as well be discarded as futile. Other methods are worth storing up for future outings.

Among the things under the heading of futility are "nest shooting" and "hole waiting." Taking pot shots at every nest in the weather as factors in squirrel hunttimber won't put many squirrels ing? They are important. Mornin the bag for most will be vacant at the time they are shot into. The few the hunter might find occupied will more often than not result in wasted game. wounded squirrel will never make it out of his nest!

"Hole waiting" is equally unproductive, for once in the comfort of his tree home, the advantage is all to the everlasting credit of the squirrel. He's not likely to give up the old fireside at this point. In fact, he's liable instead to curl up for a nice long "snooze" while the hunter waits and fumes.

As with a great many things, there are "tricks of the trade" in squirrel hunting that are worth knowing and remembering.

By nature, the squirrel is a curious animal and by appealing to this characteristic, the hunter feeling. sometimes can turn failure into sometimes lure a squirrel out of a be waiting. hole for a looksee, unless he is unusually wary. Likewise, a squirrel that has been "downed" by a shot will sometimes put others on the run or bring them out to see what the commotion is about. It's but has short tusks.

before you shoot-remember the smart squirrel hunting, then, for range of your rifle. If you're not the hunter to wait and watch the tree for awhile before he picks up his game. A little wait may result in a "double."

The hunter technique of "freezother—a safer—shot for the care- ing" and remaining motionless often will prompt a squirrel to calm his anxiety and stop long The squirrel hunter doesn't enough for the hunter to take a shot. When a squirrel is on the opposite side of a limb from his adversary, slow and cautious movement under or to the other side of the tree sometimes will go undetected to the squirrel and give the hunter opportunity to score a shot he would never have gotten if he had "rushed" things.

> What about time of day and ing and evening hours seem to be the most active ones for squirrels, peaking from 8 to 10 a.m. Weatherwise, a good formula to follow is that squirrel activity decreases with increases in wind. On overcast or stormy days, squirrel activity diminishes from fair to zero, depending upon severity of the weather.

Whether the squirrel hunter hunts in morning or evening, as a diversion from fall fishing or to get the old "eagle eye" in shape for the duck season, squirrel hunting calls for the "take it easy" kind of living that is all too lacking in this day and age. And whether the hunter sits and loafs or walks a bit for his squirrels is of little consequence for he'll return home minus the worn-out

And that's just as well for the success. Use of a fox call will household chores will probably still

> One of the tiniest hoofed animals is the mouse deer or chevrotain of tropical Asia and Africa. About a foot high, the male is hornless

## FOE OF GOOD FISHING: YOUR NAME IS MUD!

So far as we can determine, the greatest common enemy of good fishing water is MUD-valuable top soil that has been washed into our streams by erosion due to faulty land management practices. Whether suspended in the water, making it turbid, or deposited on the bottom of a lake or stream as silt, it destroys fish and fishing opportunities. Soil belongs on the land where it is valuable, not in the water where it becomes harmful.

Research has established that fish grow more rapidly in clear waters. Bass in clear ponds, for example, increased their weight six times while the bass in muddy ponds were doubling their weight. It has further been proved that fish reproduce more successfully in clear water and that food (plankton) is thirteen times more plentiful in clear water. These microscopic organisms need light to be able to grow—and light can't penetrate

All the same of the second sec

Muddy waters make poor fishing and they are also a symptom that our land is being robbed of its richness. Already, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, we have lost by erosion the use of 25,000,000 acres of once highly valuable cropland and 75,-000,000 acres of land which was once good for marginal farming. Every year an additional 500,000 acres are washed away. Erosion costs our land owners \$557,000,000 every year.

To successfully combat any enemy you must first know who he is -put this dirty blackguard high on your list of undesirables-MUD.

Then, do whatever you can to get rid of him-an active interest in the conservation program of your local rod and gun club is a good place to start. Make a speech, plant a tree, write your Congressman. - R. F. "Dick" Jennings, Pennsylvania Angler.

## DUCK HUNTING HOURS

CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

## STATE OF IOWA-30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE SCHEDULE AND SUNSET SCHEDULE

1957 IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Note: This table has been compiled from official schedules furnished by the Weather Bureau Stations listed. A schedule from Omaha, Nebraska, Station is used because there is no station in southwestern Iowa. The difference in time between stations should be taken into consideration in figuring the exact time at your particular location.)

	30 Min. Refore Sunrise	Sunset	BURLI 30 Min. Before Sunrise	Betore		DUBUQUE 30 Min. Before Sunrise Sunset		KEOKUK 30 Min. Before Sunrise Sunset		WATERLOO 30 Min. Berore Sunrise Sunset		DES MOINES 30 Min. Betore Sunrice Sunset		OMAHA, NEBR. 30 Min. Before Sunrise Sunset		Sunset
Oct. 5	5:32	5:38	5:34	5:40	5:34	5:38	5:36	5:42	5:40	5:44	5:45	5:50	5:54	6:00	5:57	6:0
6	5:33	5:37	5:34	5:39	5:34	5:38	5:37	5:41	5:41	5:43	5:46	5:49	5:54	5:59	5:57	6:0
7	5:34	5:36	5:35	5:38	5:36	5:36	5:38	5:39	5:42	5:41	5:46	5:48	5:56	5:58	5:58	5:5
- 8	5:36	5:35	5:37	5:36	5:37	5:34	5:38	5:39	5:43	5:40	5:48	5:46	5:57	5:56	5:59	5:57
9	5:37	5:33	5:38	5:34	5:38	5:33	5:39	5:37	5:44	5:38	5:48	5:44	5:58	5:54	6:00	5:50
10	5:38	5:31	5:39	5:33	5:39	5:31	5:40	5:36	5:45	5:36	5:50	5:43	5:59	5:53	6:01	5:54
11 12	5:39	5:29	5:40	5:31	5:40	5:30	5:41	5:34	5:46	5:35	5:51	5:41	6:00	5:51	6:03	5:52
13	5:40	5:28	5:41	5:30	5:41	5:28	5:43	5:32	5:48	5:33	5:52	5:40	6:01	5:50	6:04	5:41
14	5:42	5:24	5:42	5:28	5:42	5:26 5:25	5:44	5:31	5:49	5:31	5:53 5:54	5:38	6:02	5:47	6:06	5:48
15	5:43	5:23	5:44	5:25	5:45	5:23	5:46	5:28	5:51	5:28	5:55	5:35	6:04	5:45	6:07	5:48
16	5:44	5:22	5:45	5:24	5:46	5:21	5:47	5:26	5:52	5:26	5:57	5:33	6:06	5:43	6:08	5:44
17	5:45	5:20	5:46	5:22	5:47	5:20	5:48	5:25	5:53	5:25	5:57	5:32	6:06	5:42	6:09	5:40
18	5:47	5:19	5:47	5:21	5:48	5:18	5:49	5:23	5:55	5:23	5:59	5:30	6:08	5:40	6:11	5:41
19	5:49	5:18	5:49	5:19	5:49	5:17	5:50	5:22	5:56	5:22	6:00	5:29	6:09	5:39	6:12	5:40
20	5:50	5:16	5:50	5:18	5:50	5:15	5:51	5:21	5:57	5:20	6:02	5:27	6:11	5:37	6:13	5:38
21	5:51	5:15	5:51	5:16	5:52	5:14	5:52	5:19	5:58	5:18	6:02	5:26	6:11	5:36	6:15	5:36
22	5:52	5:14	5:52	5:15	5:53	5:12	5:53	5:18	5:59	5:17	6:04	5:24	6:13	5:34	6:15	5:35
23	5:53	5:12	5:53	5:13	5:54	5:11	5:54	5:17	6:00	5:16	6:04	5:23	6:13	5:33	6:17	5:33
24	5:54	5:11	5:54	5:12	5:55	5:09	5:55	5:15	6:02	5:14	6:06	5:21	6:15	5:31	6:18	5:32
25	5:55	5:10	5:55	5:10	5:56	5:08	5:57	5:14	6:03	5:13	6:06	5:20	6:15	5:30	6:20	5:30
26	5:56	5:08	5:56	5:09	5:58	5:06	5:58	5:13	6:04	5:12	6:07	5:19	6:16	5:29	6:21	5:29
27	5:58	5:06	5158	5:08	5:59	5:05	5:59	5:11	6:05	5:10	6:10	5:17	6:19	5:27	6:22	5:26
29	5:59 6:00	5:05	5:59	5:06	6:00	5:04	6:00	5:10	6:06	5:09	6:10	5:16	6:19	5:26	6:23	5:25
30	6:01	5:02	6:00	5:05 5:04	6:01	5:02	6:01	5:09	6:08	5:07	6:12	5:14	6:21	5:23	6:26	5:23
31	6:02	5:01	6:02	5:02	6:02	5:01	6:03	5:07	6:09	5:06	6:13	5:12	6:22	5:22	6:27	5:22
Nov. 1	6:03	4:59	6:04	5:01	6:05	4:58	6:04	5:05	6:11	5:03	6:16	5:10	6:25	5:20	6:27	5:21
2	6:05	4:58	6:05	5:00	6:06	4:57	6:05	5:04	6:13	5:02	6:17	5:09	6:26	5:19	6:30	5:19
3	6:06	4:57	6:06	4:59	6:08	4:56	6:07	5:03	6:14	5:01	6:18	5:08	6:27	5:18	6:31	5:18
4	6:07	4:56	6:07	4:58	6:09	4:55	6:08	5:01	6:15	5:00	6:19	5:07	6:28	5:17	6:32	5:17
5	6:08	4:55	6:08	4:57	6:10	4:53	6:09	5:00	6:16	4:59	6:20	5:06	6:29	5:16	6:33	5:16
6	6:10	4:54	6;10	4:56	6:11	4:52	6:10	4:59	6:18	4:57	6:22	5:05	6:31	5:15	6:35	5:14
7	6:11	4:52	6:11	4:54	6:12	4:51	6:11	4:59	6:19	4:56	6:23	5:03	6:32	5:13	6:36	5:13
- 8	6:12	4:51	6:12	4:53	6:14	4:50	6:12	4:57	6:20	4:55	6;24	5:02	6:33	5:12	6:37	5:12
9	6:13	4:50	6:13	4:52	6:15	4:49	6:14	4:56	6:21	4:54	6:25	5:01	6:34	5:11	6:38	5:11
11	6:14	4:49	6:14	4:51	6:16	4:48	6:15	4:55	6:23	4:53	6:26	5:00	6:35	5:10	6:39	5:09
12	6:17	4:48	6:15	4:51 4:50	6:18	4:47	6:16	4:54	6:24	4:52	6:27	4:59	6:36	5:09	6:42	5:08
13	6:18	4:46	6:18	4:49	6:19	4:46	6:17	4:54	6:25	4:51	6:29	4:58	6:38	5:07	6:43	5:07
14	6:19	4:45	6:19	4:48	6:21	4:44	6:19	4:52	6:28	4:49	6:31	4:57	6:40	5:07	6:44	5:00
15	6:20	4:44	6:20	4:47	6:22	4:43	6:20	4:51	6:29	4:48	6:32	4:56	6:41	5:06	6:46	5:05
16	6:21	4:43	6:21	4:46	6:23	4:42	6:22	4:50	6:30	4:47	6:33	4:55	6:42	5:05	6:47	5:04
17	6:23	4:43	6:22	4:45	6:24	4:42	6:23	4:49	6:32	4:46	6:35	4:54	6:44	5:04	6:49	5:02
18	6:24	4:42	6:23	4:45	6:26	4:41	6:24	4:49	6:33	4:45	6:36	4:53	6:45	5:03	6:50	5:02
1.9	6:25	4:41	6:25	4:44	6:27	4:40	6:25	4:48	6:34	4:44	6:37	4:53	6:46	5:03	6:52	5:01
20	6:26	4:41	6:26	4:43	6:28	4:39	6:26	4:47	6:35	4:44	6:38	4:52	6:47	5:02	6:52	5:01
21	6:27	4:40	6:27	4:43	6:29	4:39	6:27	4:47	6:37	4:43	6:39	4:51	6:48	5:01	6:54	5:00
22	6:28	4:39	6:28	4:42	6:31	4:38	6:28	4:46	6:38	4:42	6:40	4:51	6:49	5:01	6:55	4:59
24	6:30	4:39	6:29	4:42	6:32	4:37	6:29	4:46	6:39	4:42	6:42	4:50	6:51	5:00	6:55	4:58
25	6:32	4:37	6:31	4:41	6:33	4:37	6:31	4:45	6:40	4:41	6:43	4:50	6:52	4:59	6:59	4:57
26	6:33	4:37	6:32	4:40	6:35	4:36	6:33	4:44	6:43	4:40	6:45	4:49	6:54	4:59	7:00	4:57
27	6:34	4:36	6:33	4:40	6:36	4:35	6:34	4:44	6:44	4:39	6:46	4:48	6:55	4:58	7:01	4:50
28	6:35	4:36	6:34	4:39	6:37	4:35	6:35	4:43	6:45	4:39	6:47	4:48	6:56	4:58	7:02	4:50
29	6:36	4:35	6:35	4:39	6:38	4:35	6:36	4:43	6:46	4:38	6:48	4:47	6:57	4:57	7:03	4:51
3.0	6:37	4:35	6:36	4:39	6:40	4:34	6:37	4:43	6:47	4:38	6:49	4:47	6:58	4:57	7:04	4:5
Dec. 1	6:38	4:35	6:37	4:38	6:41	4:34	6:38	4:42	6:48	4:38	6:50	4:47	6:59	4:57	7:05	4:5
2	6:39	4:34	6:38	4:38	6:42	4:34	6:39	4:42	6:49	4:37	6:51	4:46	7:00	4:56	7:06	4:5
3	6:40	4:34	6:39	4:38	6:43	4:33	6:40	4:42	6:50	4:37	6:52	4:46	7:01	4:56	7:07	4:5
5	6:41	4:34	6:40	4:38	6:44	4:33	6:41	4:42	6:51	4:37	6:53	4:46	7:02	4:56	7:08	4:5
6	6:42	4:34	6:41	4:38	6:45	4:33	6:42	4:42	6:52	4:37	6:54	4:46	7:03	4:56	7:09	4:5
7	6:44	4:34	6:43	4:38	6:45	4:33	6:43	4:42	6:54	4:37	6:55	4:46	7:04	4:56	7:11	4:5
8	6:45	4:34	6:44	4:38	6:48	4:33	6:45	4:42	6:55	4:37	6:57	4:46	7:06	4:56	7:12	4:5
9	6:46	4:34	6:45	4:38	6:48	4:33	6:45	4:42	6:56	4:37	6:58	4:46	7:07	4:56	7:13	4:5
1.0	6:47	4:34	6:46	4:38	6:49	4:33	6:46	4:42	6:57	4:37	6:59	4:46	7:08	4:56	7:14	4:5
11	6:48	4:34	6:47	4:38	6:50	4:33	6:47	4:42	6:58	4:37	7:00	4:46	7:09	4:56	7:15	4:5
A.A.	10.0.0.00															
12	6:49	4:34	6:47	4:38	6:51	4:33	6:48	4:42	6:59	4:37	7:00	4:46	7:09	4:56	7:16	4:5

The "bald" eagle has a fully feathered head. Its head feathers are white. "Bald" in the days when the eagle was being named, retailed its old meaning of "white." It was in that sense that it was used.

Some animals can glide through the only animals that can fly.

The pendant nests of the Baltimore orioles are marvels of weaving. They are strong enough to support many times the weight of the brood.

A porcupine doesn't roll itself into a ball when danger threatens necked pheasant is about the size but simply arches its back and of a white leghorn hen. Cocks the air for a ways, but bats are hides its nose between the two weigh two and a half to three the grip of its jaws. Even ele to the grip of its jaws. forepaws.

A bee can sting only once because it loses its stinger. However, you may get repeat performance from wasps, hornets, and yellowjackets.

When full grown, the ringpounds and hens about two pounds. phants are afraid of them.

The fur seal goes ashore only once a year, on the Pribilof Islands Haci in the Bering Sea. The rest of the hat time he never sees land or any fresh water except rain.

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The savage soldier ant is so tenacious it will allow itself to be pulled apart rather than to relax