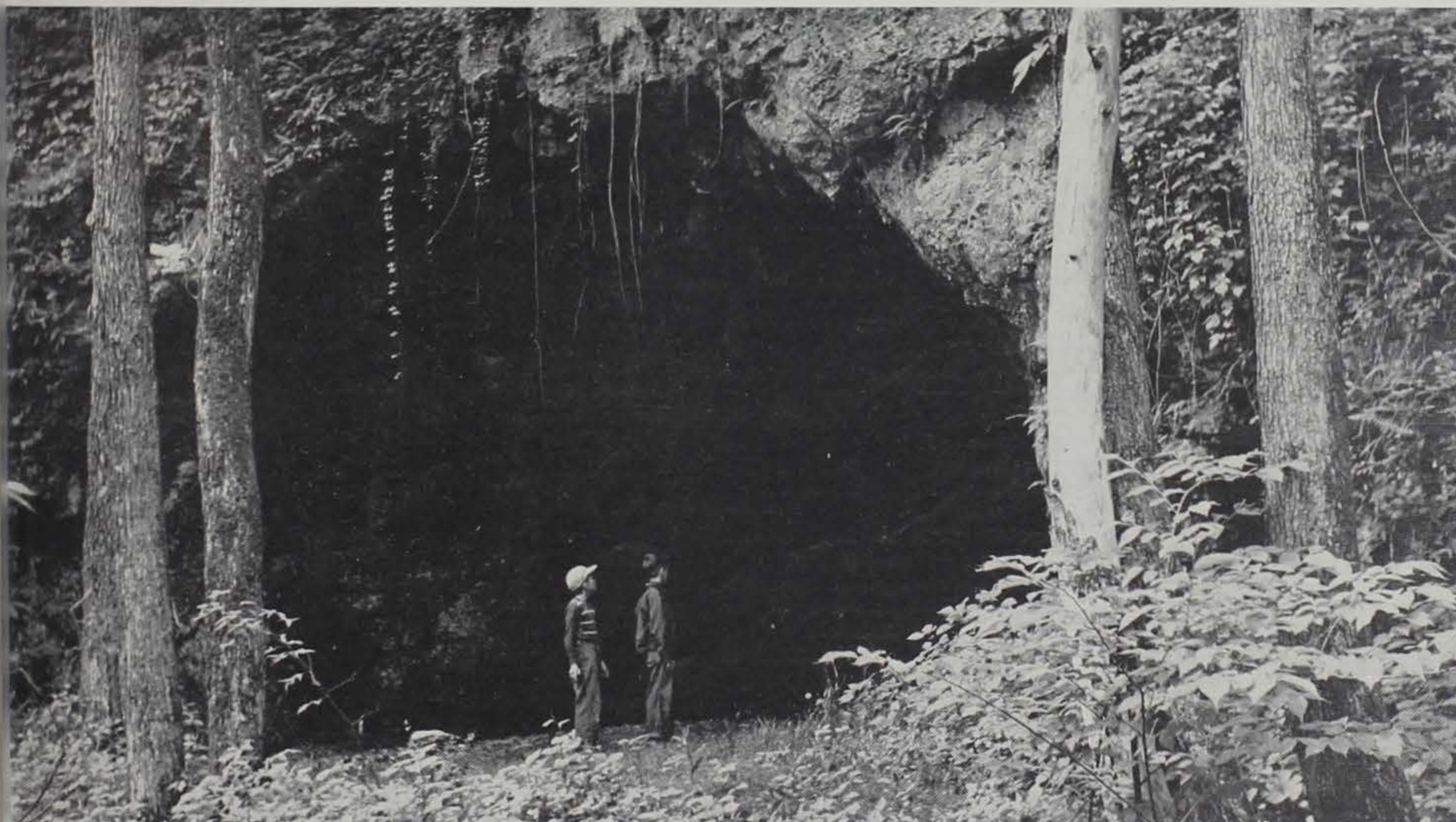


Time 22

July, 1963

Number 7

The Quiet Beauty of 'Little Known' Iowa



Just one of the features at Wapsipicon State Park.

Jim Sherman Photo

Looking for a Quiet, Restful Outing?

Denny Rehder

Perhaps you have been crowded into the campgrounds at Clear Lake, searched for a vacant picnic table at the Ledges. Possibly you, too, can wonder whether "outdoors" meant traffic jams, shoulder-to-shoulder fishing, or cramped quarters.

Hopefully, we head for the parks to escape the staleness of too many sights and sounds. We may want to fish, picnic, camp, or enjoy the informal association with others at the parks. Or, we may have no social inclinations at all. We might be like one eastern Iowa official who camps every weekend during the summer. He doesn't care who he doesn't hob-nob with others. He comes to the park, sets up gear, and sits down—with no phones, no television, no one to bother his relaxation. He may take a leisurely stroll through the woods for recreation, but usually he is there to take it easy.

Parks are for everyone and everyone's tastes. A wide variety of

facilities are offered to satisfy most interests.

But if you want peace and quiet, relaxation, and more subdued forms of leisure, you may want to try a park that attracts fewer people than some major State Parks.

"Little-Known Iowa"

There are numerous small areas in Iowa's State Park System suited to the family who wishes for elbow room with few people around. They may be scenic, rich in plant life, or good fishing areas, but they all have one feature in common—relatively light use.

For instance, Lacey-Keosauqua in southeast Iowa is a major park of considerable size. But, it does not carry the attendance you would expect of such a large area. The park is a scenic, quiet area that would offer the camper or parkhopper a relaxing outing.

Consider Bellevue overlooking the Mississippi River with Lock and Dam No. 12 below the park's overlooks. Here is another scenic park for people who really want to combine scenery with their relaxation.

(Continued on page 56)

Iowa Conservationist

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CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE 54,000

COMMISSION MINUTES

Des Moines, June 7, 1963
County Conservation Projects

Benton County received approval for the acquisition of 20 acres of land at a total cost of \$700.00 located two miles south of the town of Urbana, called Titus Timber, a segment of Wild Cat Bluff area.

Hancock County received approval for the acquisition of 8.7 acres of land at a total cost of \$1,740.00, located on the north shore of East Twin Lake, to be used as a forest and game preserve.

Jackson County received approval for the acquisition of 42.8 acres of land on a 25 year license from the U. S. Corps of Engineers and a 1.7 acre access area on a 25 year lease to be used for a boat dock, ramp and marina and camping and picnicking, located 2½ miles north of the town of Bellevue on the Mississippi River.

Lee County received approval for the acquisition of 0.30 acres of land at a total cost of \$300.00 as a necessary addition to the Montrose Highway Safety Rest Area.

Mitchell County received approval for the acquisition at a cost of \$1.00 for all the property of the Interstate Power Company located on the Cedar River at the town of Mitchell, including the river dam and various lands and waters.

Worth County received approval for the acquisition of 32 acres of timber land at a total cost of \$2,400.00, located approximately five miles southwest of the town of Northwood, to be used as a forest and game habitat area.

Delaware County received approval for a development plan for Dunlap Park, located 1½ miles south of the town of Hopkinton, to be used primarily as a fishing access area.

Jackson County received approval for a revision of the development plan for Bellevue roadside park to include an additional 20-acre parcel of land.

Jackson County received approval for a development plan for the Red Schoolhouse Historical

Area which would include picnicking facilities for transient use.

Linn County received approval for a development plan for the Abbe Creek School Historical Area which would include picnicking facilities.

Fish and Game

The Commission approved a partial apportionment of Federal Aid Funds, amounting to \$240,000.00 for the coming fiscal year.

An option was approved on 70 acres of land at a cost of \$9,400.00 for the Adair County Lake site.

An option was approved for 230 acres of land at a cost of \$16,000.00 for the Miami Lake site in Monroe County.

The State Highway Commission was authorized to do road improvement work adjacent to Dudgeon Lake in Benton County with the provision that adequate soil erosion control work be done on the borrow area.

American Marietta Company received approval to deposit spoil on state property at the Palisades Access Area in Linn County according to a stipulated plan.

The County Engineer of Dickinson County received approval for road improvement work traversing the Spring Run Area.

Approval was given for an underground telephone cable to cross the Otter Creek Marsh Area in Tama County.

A request for maintenance of an access road in the south part of Lake Manawa was referred to the Attorney General's office.

The Commission approved the expenditure of \$10,000.00 for a cooperative research program on pesticides and other chemical pollutants with the State Hygienic Laboratory at Iowa City.

The Commission declared their intention of refusing any rights-of-way across state owned lands for the purpose of straightening the lower reaches of the Skunk River pending acceptable negotiations.

Lands and Waters

Approval was given for a re-

Things You May Not Know

The golden-mantled ground squirrel has a stripe suggesting the color pattern of the chipmunk, but the squirrel is much larger and chunkier.

Though usually silent, porcupines can make sounds ranging from a snorting bark to a kind of cry or "scream."

The antlers shed by deer each year are seldom found. Mice, porcupines and other rodents gnaw them for the minerals they contain.

Though the mountain lion has a natural aversion to water, it can, if necessary, swim exceptionally well.

THE LOSS OF A TROUT STREAM

Denny Rehder

Iowa's trout waters are limited. Only 150 miles of stream are posted as trout fishing waters in northeast Iowa. The loss of even one of these areas for public fishing would be a great loss indeed, especially if such a loss could be prevented by a little forethought and courtesy.

When a stream is designated as trout water and posted as such the adjacent landowners sign an agreement to allow public access. This access is for fishing only—no camping, no picnicking, and no abuses of this private property. There are several state-owned areas bordering trout streams that offer facilities for other non-fishing activities.

However, some stretches of stream running through private land have been abused. High-schoolers having a party, campers looking for a secluded site, picnickers seeking greener pastures, and even fishermen digging out the banks for bait. Small wonder then that some landowners object to their property being used as a dump, car area, or bait shop. All they signed was an agreement to allow public access for fishing purposes only.

It is surprising that even a fisherman could thoughtlessly abuse the facilities that make trout fishing in Iowa possible. The patience and cooperation of landowners adjacent to trout waters should always be respected and recognized. The fisherman is not there by right, but by the permission of the farmer.

Due to abuse, some trout waters have been posted for a short time against fishing. The thoughtful angler, however, would usually find the stream open for sport if he asked the landowner's permission.

Cans, bottles, and campfire debris are not a part of trout fishing. Thoughtful, considerate behavior is just good outdoorsmanship; it is your ticket to lasting enjoyment of the outdoors on public or private property.

quest to cut the lake bank to build a boat harbor on Minnewashta Lake in Dickinson County on the condition that public access be allowed at this point.

Approval was given for a request to hold a fireworks display at Storm Lake.

A permit was renewed for a ski jump at East Okoboji Lake.

The Commission agreed to install a boat ramp near the Henshaw Bridge on the Upper Gar Lake in Dickinson County on the condition that the Arnolds Park Lions Club fill a small slough area at that point.

A request to remove silt and improve shoreline of Union Grove Lake in Tama County was approved.

Permission was given to build a boat house at Francis Sites on East Okoboji Lake.

The Boy Scouts were given permission to alter the lakeshore on Millers Bay on West Okoboji Lake on the condition that no rocks be removed from the shoreline.

A ski jump was approved on the Des Moines River at Fort Dodge on the condition that it be lighted and removed from the river on weekends.

Approval was given for a ski jump to be placed on the Cedar River in Black Hawk County on the condition that it be removed from the river each day.

The Highway Commission was granted permission to alter the entrance to Lacey-Keosauqua State Park in Van Buren County.

Iowa State University was granted permission to locate a temporary field research laboratory in Pilot Knob State Park for the purpose of doing research work on the red-backed mouse.

Approval was given for a pipeline crossing the Missouri River at Sioux City.

Permission was granted for underground pipeline crossing the Wapsipinicon River 3½ miles southeast of Anamosa.

The State Highway Commission was given a permit for stream control work adjacent to the Interstate Highway Commission bridge over the Raccoon River near West Des Moines.

Approval was given for an action in Lee County for 106 acres at \$25 an acre adjacent to Shir Forest Area.

General

Travel was approved for following meetings: Missouri sin Inter-Agency Commission; Grand Teton National Park; Association of Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners, Columbus, O.; National Conference of State Federal Inter-Agencies for Recreation, Georgia; Mississippi Fly Council, St. Louis; American Association for Conservation Information, Omaha.

A report was given on a program for interpretive work at State Parks and at State Hatcheries by the Chief of Land and Waters and the Chief of Game.

Authority was granted to Director to approve regatta meets.

Approval was given for 2 to be set up on Lake Manawa water skiing from 9 a.m. to 7 only.

Approval was given to a record by Jack Musgrove, Curator of State Historical Museum, to play the original fish painting from the book, "Iowa Fish Fishing" for a period of months.

WHY DO BIRDS SING?

Tom Ballard

Have you ever wondered why birds sing their beautiful refrains? It appears at first glance that the "bobwhite" quail and all his feathered friends, from the great horned owl to the song sparrow, are just happy to be alive and singing, but on further study we discover some interesting reasons for these poor melodies.

It has been stated that there are two basic types of bird song. The primary song, which is sung at a high voice, and the secondary song, which is a low, inward rendering nearly inaudible at a few yards.

Primary Songs

The "territorial" song is the one with which we are most familiar. The robin, cardinal, or any other bird that you hear vocalizing when you read this article is telling the world and more specifically other males of the same species "this is my territory and intruders will be dealt with accordingly." This is his warning to other males but at the same time an invitation for any unmated females of the species to share his domain.

The "signal" song is another one of the primary calls. This voice is used in coordinating the activities of birds, particularly a mated pair. Song sparrows exchange such greeting when they meet at the nest. It has been stated that this "signal" call may be a stimulus to the youngsters to commence wide-mouthed gaping for food. If you have any doubts that birds use a "signal" call of any kind, just try to approach a group of feeding crows at the edge of a field.

The third type of primary call is the "emotional" song. This is a collection bag that includes all renderings that cannot be specifically defined as to function. Apparently even birds need an outlet for their excess energy. We wonder what it would be like sending children out-of-doors to sing their energies instead of being cramped beneath their scrambled feet on those hectic days. Light and some winter songs



Dr. N. K. Kinney



Rev. Laurence N. Nelson



Mike F. Zack

Three New Commissioners Begin July 1

Three new Conservation Commission members begin their terms this month. Appointed to six-year terms by the Governor during the recent General Assembly were Dr. N. K. Kinney, Ida Grove; Rev. Laurence N. Nelson, Bellevue; and Mike F. Zack, Mason City.

Dr. Kinney, an avid hunter and fisherman, has been practicing veterinary medicine in Ida Grove the past twenty years. He is a long-time member of the Ida County Sportsmen Club, is a Mason, school board member, and a member of numerous professional organizations. A native Iowan, Kinney received his veterinary degree from Iowa State University. He is a member of the

Presbyterian Church, is married and has three children.

Reverend Nelson is a well-known northeast Iowa minister who has written a weekly sports column in the *Bellevue Herald-Leader* the past 23 years. He has lectured widely throughout northeast Iowa for more than 20 years on the conservation of water, land and wildlife, and has contributed articles to numerous conservation publications.

He is a member of the Izaak Walton League, Rotary, Farm Bureau, Masonic Lodge, the National Rifle Association, and is a certified hunter safety instructor. He received his degree as Doctor of Divinity from the University of Dubuque, and has been pastor of

the First Presbyterian Church in Bellevue for the last 25 years. He is married and has three adopted children.

Mr. Zack, a widely-known Mason City business man, is an active hunter and fisherman and a long-time member of the Association for Preservation of Clear Lake. He has been a member of the Cerro Gordo County Conservation Board since its organization, and helped to organize the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards in 1958. He served as president of that group in 1960 as well as a member of the Board of Directors until 1962.

He is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City, is married and has one child.

fall into this category. The evening song of the ringnecked pheasant, on the roost, but not yet settled down for the evening, is truly a memorable thing to hear.

Secondary Songs

The realm of the secondary-type song is much harder to describe because it includes the quiet, subdued voices that few of us have actually heard in the woods or meadow. The three ranges of secondary songs are "whispering," "subsong," and "rehearsal."

The "whispering" song is normally a copy of a primary song, with or without variations or additions, but can be heard at a maximum distance of twenty yards.

The "subsong" is less common than the whispering song and basically different from the primary version.

"Rehearsal" song is the random utterance of song notes by young birds and sometimes old birds before they have attained perfection in the primary song. These weird variations of the primary call will

be heard from pheasants, crows, and songbirds in the spring and winter.

Definitions of song are difficult and many times inadequate but they do lead us toward further study of bird songs and point out some interesting observations.

Inherited or Learned?

Is song inherited or learned? Canary eggs were hatched in a sound proof environment but the fledgling canaries sang their normal song. Some blackbirds have an inherited juvenile song but learn entirely or partially their adult version.

Have you ever been walking down Main Street and been startled by a perfect rendition of the bobwhite call? Is it some poor lost quail? No indeed, just another starling practicing up. Several songbirds are adept mimics and the starling is one of our common examples.

Do birds have a song cycle? It appears that few birds sing throughout the entire year and those that do have periods of increased song activity. There is usually a daily cycle as well. Mid-day usually is a slack period of

(Continued on page 56)



The "Cures" For Dutch Elm Disease

Stephen Kelley

Many alleged preventives and cures are offered to the public because of the great interest in the control of Dutch elm disease.

During the last few years injections, solid treatments, and ointments of crankcase oil have been offered to the public. Bottles filled with turpentine and pastes that are to be smeared in the main crotch of the tree are also two alleged remedies made available to the public. As well as curing Dutch elm disease some of these "cures" will also kill ants, caterpillars, beetles, and other insects. One of the tree sprays offered to the public not only "protects elms" but can also be used for whitewall tires and rust on chrome.

One product claims that phloem necrosis and Dutch elm disease are due to a single organism and result in "phloem thrombosis." This product claims that a gallon of a secret formula drained into the main crotch of the tree will cure the disease. It supposedly "cures and prevents oak wilt" also. Its cost is \$45 per gallon.

There are also sprays on the market that claim to be effective against the elm beetles and also attractive to birds and animals. These sprays will not produce runny eyes, stiff necks, or upset stomachs as other insecticides are liable to.

As ridiculous as these claims may be there are many gullible people that will spend their money for these "cures and preventives." Public cooperation is very important to help eliminate the so-called Dutch elm disease experts that recommend these cures.

Zinc-Coated Nails

In 1960, an accepted prevention was the use of zinc-coated nails or zinc chloride. This treatment to infected trees was proved ineffective in 1962. Those trees that were treated were dead the growing season after the treatment was applied. Trees that did not show any signs of being infected were also treated with zinc chloride and zinc-coated nails. All of the trees that were treated are now dead or dying.

According to Dr. Harold S. McNabb, associate professor of botany and plant pathology at Iowa State University, "Elms that become infected and exhibit disease symptoms cannot be cured."

The presence of Dutch elm disease can only be verified by laboratory culturing.

What is Necessary?

Since Dutch elm disease cannot be controlled after it has attacked the tree it is very important that preventive steps be taken.

The following preventive steps are recommended:

1. Evaluation and education. A census of all elms in the com-

munity should be taken in order to realize the magnitude of the problem and then an educational program may be established.

2. Sanitation. Remove and burn all dead and dying elm wood with tight bark. This includes branches in living trees, dead standing trees, and wood piles.

3. Maintenance. All living elms must be kept in a healthy, vigorous growing condition. This may be accomplished by fertilization and watering. Bark wounds should be repaired promptly.

4. Spraying. Valuable trees can be protected by applying DDT in the late fall after the leaves have fallen. Methoxychlor may be applied in the early spring before the buds swell. DDT remains effective during the complete growing season following a dormant application. Methoxychlor should only be used during the early spring because it deteriorates during the winter.

These DDT spray formulas are suggested:

For hydraulic sprayers, 8 gallons of 25 per cent DDT concentrate and 92 gallons of water. Apply 15 to 20 gallons of spray per average large tree.

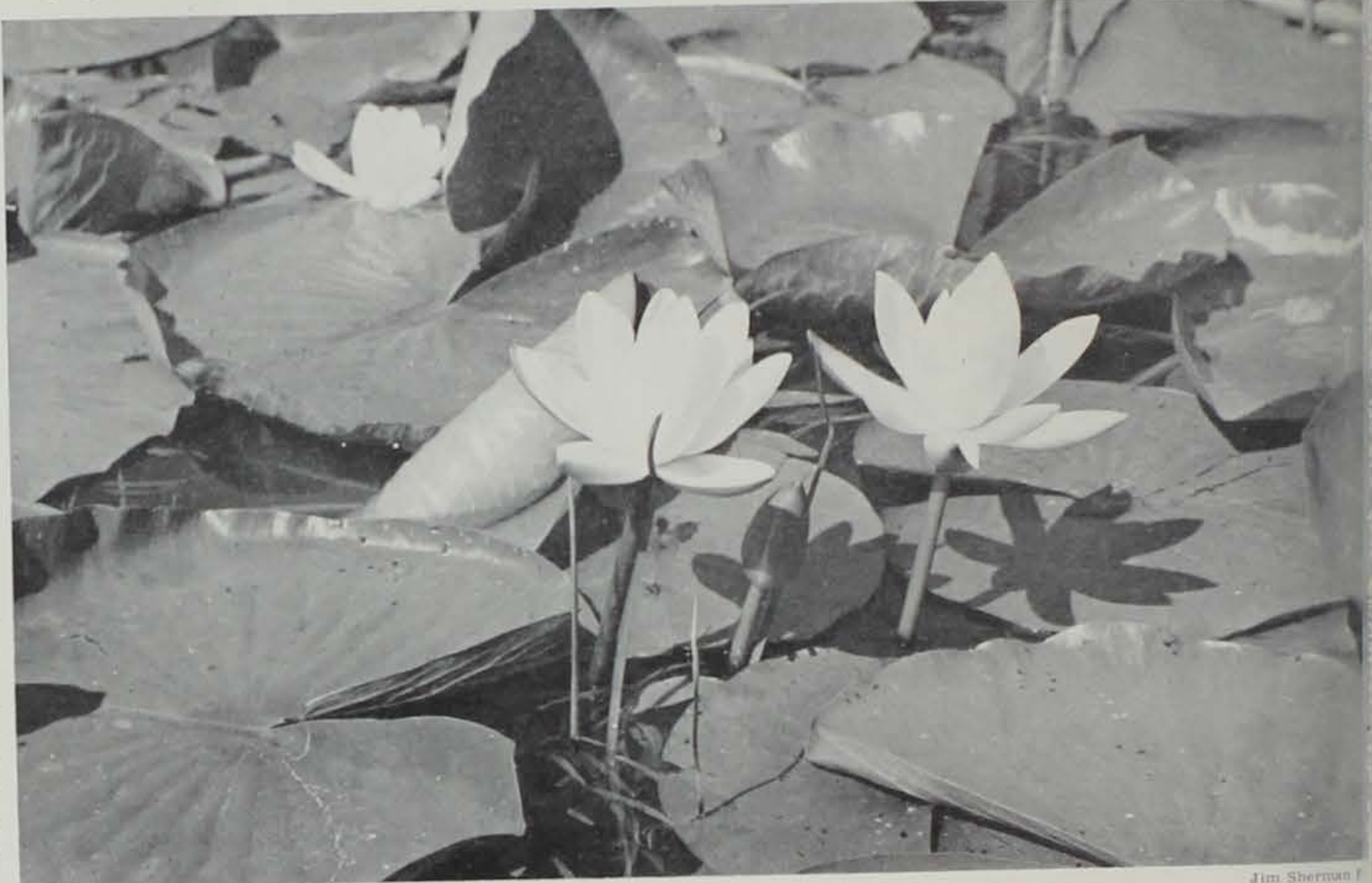
For mist blower application, mix 50 gallons of 25 per cent DDT concentrate and 50 gallons of water. Apply at about 2 to 3 gallons per tree.

Dr. McNabb states that "There are no magic fertilizers, trunk or soil treatments, or foliage sprays which have proved effective other than those outlined here."

In order to insure the proper safeguarding of your elm trees, it is important that you know who

(Continued on page 56)

IOWA'S WATER FLOWER GARDEN



Water Lily (*Nymphaea tuberosa*)

Jim Sherman

Carol Buckmann

Iowa's flower show is not limited to the woodlands and prairies—in mid-summer her aquatic flowers display an extravagant water flower show. July and August are the peak months to visit these water gardens.

High on the list of common aquatics is arrowhead, familiar to anyone who has fished or hiked along the water's edge. The arrowhead-shaped leaves extending one to three feet out of the water are as familiar as the white blossoms. The three-parted flowers appear in groups of threes.

Arrowhead has served man for decades. The edible, underwater rhizomes or stems, high in starch, were boiled and roasted by the Indians and eaten as potatoes; men on the Lewis and Clark expedition depended on them as a bread substitute.

Another aquatic beauty not as abundant as arrowhead is pickerel weed found floating on the surface or rooted in the mud of shallow water in pond coves or stream borders. The fleshy stems arise from a thick rootstalk beneath the surface or anchored in the mud by fibrous roots.

From early spring to early fall, the blue, orchid-like flowers appear grouped in clusters like hyacinths. Some consider the large, heart-shaped leaves as attractive as the flower spikes. The glossy-green leaves with their blotched, irregular markings seem to be splashed with ink.

The flowers of water crowfoot come in both yellow and white with leaves and flowers either protruding or submerged. When submerged, the leaves and flowers are

finely dissected. Growing in shallow pools and wet depressions from May to September, aquatic buttercup often roots the stem nodes.

Wildlife Food

Water flowers do more than color and fragrance to the water scene, they also serve as wildlife food. Muskrats and beaver eat stems, roots and bulbs while waterfowl take advantage of seeds.

Although sago, floating-leaf ruffle-leaf are used more frequently, lady's thumb or smartwort is at the top on a duck's menu. This slender annual, also known as peppergrass, grows to two feet with pink flowers in compact erect clusters. The leaves are spotted with purple on the upper surface.

Even some bushes are adapted to aquatic life such as the buttonbush, a close relative of honeysuckle. This woody plant is especially common in the Mississippi River bayous. The flowers are in compact, ball-like clusters.

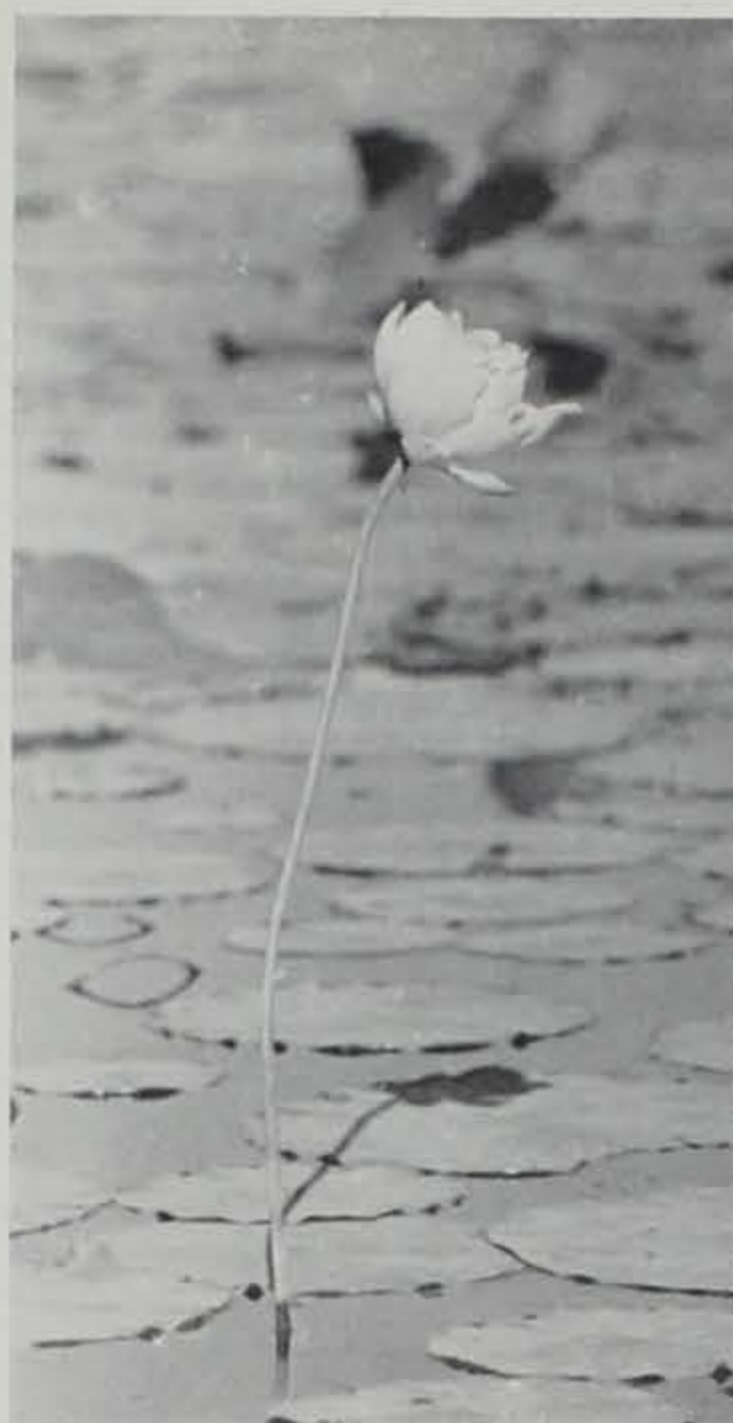
The most widespread water flower, cattail, sometimes grows eight feet. The blossom resembles a club with velvety-brown texture and compact flowers. In the fall this "cattail" is transformed into a fluffy mass of wind-dispersed seeds.

Another common water plant is the square-stemmed monkey flower with its solitary, long, pointed flowers coming from the upper leaf axils. Look long at the flowers they resemble tiny monkey faces. Along with monkey flower, tall, swamp milkweed grows

(Continued on page 53)



Round Stem Bullrush

Water Lily (*Nelumbo lutea*)

River Bullrush

Jim Sherman Photos



Arrowhead



Cattail

WATER FLOWERS—

(Continued from page 52)

et with numerous deep pink flowers in umbrella-like clusters. These dense, brilliant red flowers develop a 20-inch spike, the loving cardinal flower is named. Blue flag (wild iris) is also semi-aquatics common to many wet areas.

far, the flowers have been aquatic but a few unusual have adapted to an entirely new form of life and spend their lives either submerged or floating in fresh water. Lotus and water lilies, the most spectacular flowers, comprise this group. In this type of existence, the plants have horizontal rhizomes and underwater stems which anchor

the plants in mud beneath the water. From these, long stems extend to the water's surface where they attach to the center of floating leaves. These floating leaves develop rounded blades differing from the submerged type which are divided into thread-like segments. The solitary flowers float on the surface or extend just above the water.

Perhaps the best known member of this group, American lotus, is a close relative to the Egyptian lotus held sacred to the Hindus. It is known to cover acres of water in shallow or sluggish streams with dense beds of huge, green leaves like elephant ears. The creamy-yellow flowers are as fragrant as they are beautiful.

Growing in shallow, quiet water from two to five feet, the big leaves and flowers stand a foot or two above the surface on thick, stiff stems arising from fleshy rootstalks. The leathery, dark green leaves are circular, one to two feet in diameter. Each is balanced at the center like a platter on a stem. The great flower buds open into six to ten inch blossoms with broad petals and sepals.

These are followed by conical seed capsules the size of a man's fist. From one to two dozen seeds are set in pits in the flat capsule which breaks off and floats about scattering the seeds. The hard-shelled seeds were roasted by the Indians who ate them like peanuts or ground them into oatmeal to

make bread, mush or dumplings. The stalks, also eaten by the Indians, taste like sweet potatoes when boiled.

Also growing in ponds are relatives to the lotus, the water lilies. These never grow in extensive beds such as the lotus but can grow in deeper water as the stems are more elastic and bend with the water level. A common member is spatterdock or yellow pond-lily, an inhabitant of roadside swamps, boggy streams and coves of ponds and lakes. The rounded leaves have an open cleft at the stem attachment. In shallow water or in mud, the leaves are erect but in deep water, they float on the surface with the globular, two inch flowers appearing from May to September.

Also common to the water flower garden is showy, white water or pond-lily. The undersides of the 12-inch leaves and ropelike stems are purplish. The pure white or pink tinged flowers are eight inches in diameter with several series of petals and bright yellow stamens.

Although most water flowers live in fresh water of shallow lakes, ponds, sloughs, bays and streams, some are found in brackish water, rooting on the bottom and stretching upward. They push their blossoms above the surface long enough to be pollinated and set seed. Most have soft, pliable stems that sway and are buoyed up by air-filled cells in the stems and leaves.

BASS

Landing bass is simple even if you don't have a landing net. Grasp the bass by the lower jaw with your thumb and fingers and force it down. This seems to paralyze them and they are easy to handle.

LITTLE SWITZERLAND'S TROUT

Robert P. Sasse

Flowing through the picturesque bluffs of northeast Iowa are many peaceful streams offering security to lunker trout. Unfortunately, many fishermen don't have the opportunity of learning how to catch them and consequently rely on chance.

There are a few things that can be learned about when, where, and how to catch them that may help you bend a few hooks.

We all have some fishing habits, and it's surprising how hard they are to even modify. Perhaps this is because we like to relax while fishing and forget about improving our technique. But, if you want to catch big fish, there are some facts you need.

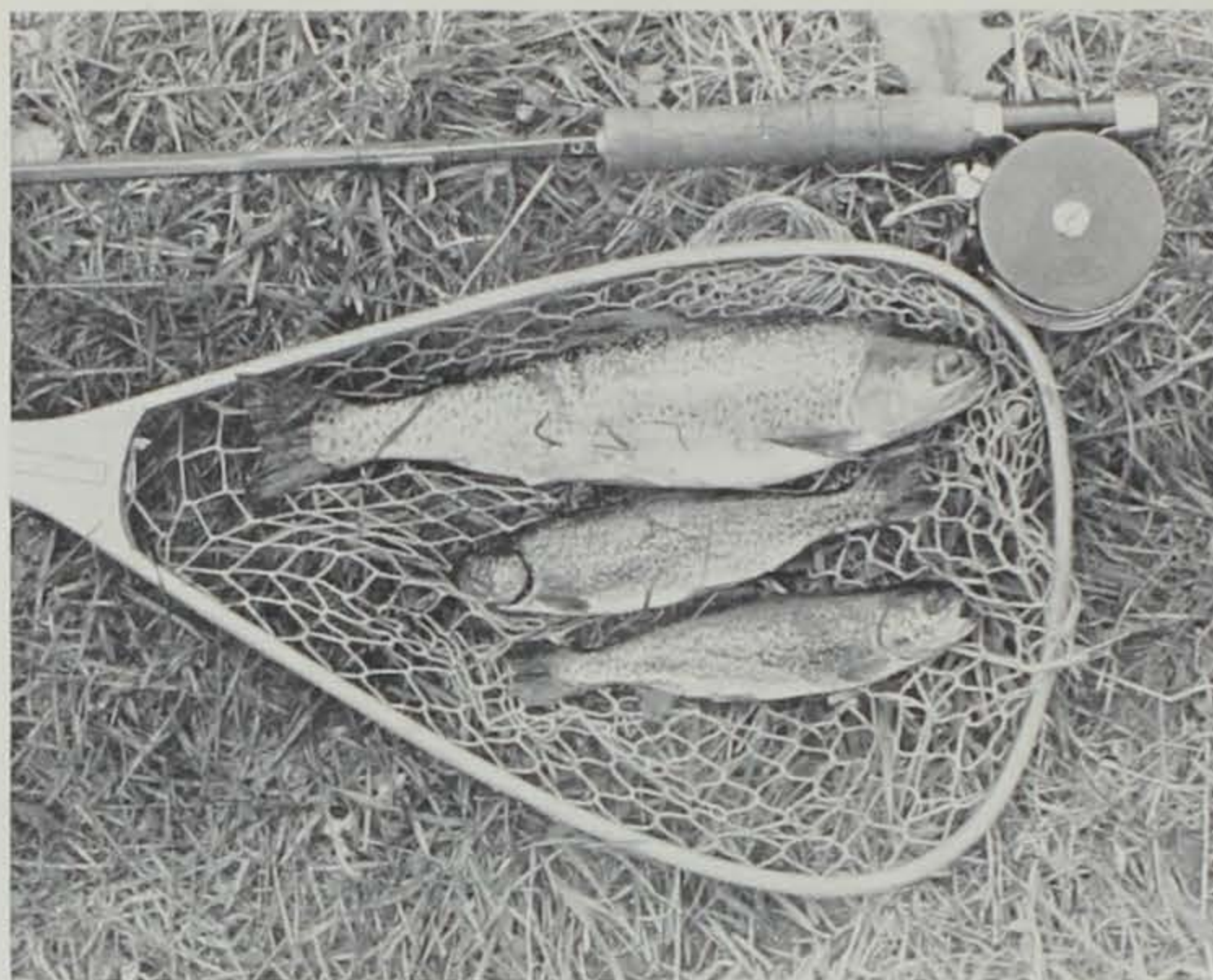
Lunker Trout

Lunker trout feed primarily at night and adjacent periods, but they may feed vigorously during the day in rainy weather or turbid water due to an increasing food supply. We have often noticed an increase in their feeding from approximately eleven to twelve o'clock in the morning. Wind disturbance on the water has also been noted to provoke feeding by lowering the fish's underwater visibility and increasing the availability of food. A warm period during the winter is a choice time to fish for big trout as a result of increased feeding activity and the reduced food supply. Although trout don't fight as frantically at this time of year, they are very good eating. These fish will strike almost anytime, even when they are choosy and sluggish, if the bait is within easy reach and appeals to them. But, considerable patience might be required to accomplish this.

During the day, the trout prefers a secluded habitat, where he is out of sight and within easy reach of a constant flow of food. Lunkers become bolder toward evening and may move into the shallower water below riffles to feed. The ideal lairs are deep pools close to riffles and bordered by overhanging trees, rock ledges, or undercut banks. However, relatively shallow pockets containing some obstruction, such as a boulder or sunken log, often hold good fish and are commonly overlooked by some fishermen. Observations have shown that trout establish a peck order similar to that of chickens; the largest fish having preference to his lair and any food entering the pool. For this reason, the smaller the pool, the less chance of its holding more than one large fish. If a lunker is caught, another will often replace him in time. You can, with experience, learn to spot likely habitat.

Fish Don't Reason

Although fish don't reason, they do learn through experience by a conditioned response process.



Trout fishermen are having a fine season this year. Stream conditions have been excellent and fishing has been reported as "great."

Trout are a fairly fast learning fish, and their environmental conditions including clear water aid their senses greatly. This makes the task of presenting bait in a tempting manner difficult.

Trout not only have excellent vision, but can also distinguish colors. Large brown trout are notorious for spotting an unnatural drifting bait resulting from a leader heavier than four pound test or weight attached to it. A large fish can be lost on light line unless there are few obstructions in the area to get in his way. When light conditions are poor or the water is murky, you may increase your chances by using a heavier leader. Be sure your leader is adequate in length.

If you can see your quarry, chances are that he can also see you and isn't about to strike. Never stand on top of a side-cut bank or with your shadow on the water. When fish refuse to bite, some fishermen try muddying up the riffles, to cut down visibility and possibly alert the fish for food. Trout may also detect your voice and movements, as they are sensitive to vibrations within the same frequency range as humans.

Food

Trout often feed on one specific thing at a time even if it isn't the most abundant food available. Consequently, upon knowing a lunker's location, you should try all the lures and bait that you have if he refuses to strike. After once catching a fish, you can determine upon what he has been feeding by examining the contents of his stomach. You will usually find large minnows, crawfish, or insect larvae in them. Because trout have a hard time catching minnows, they often watch for what may appear to be a susceptible fish. You may give

RABIES

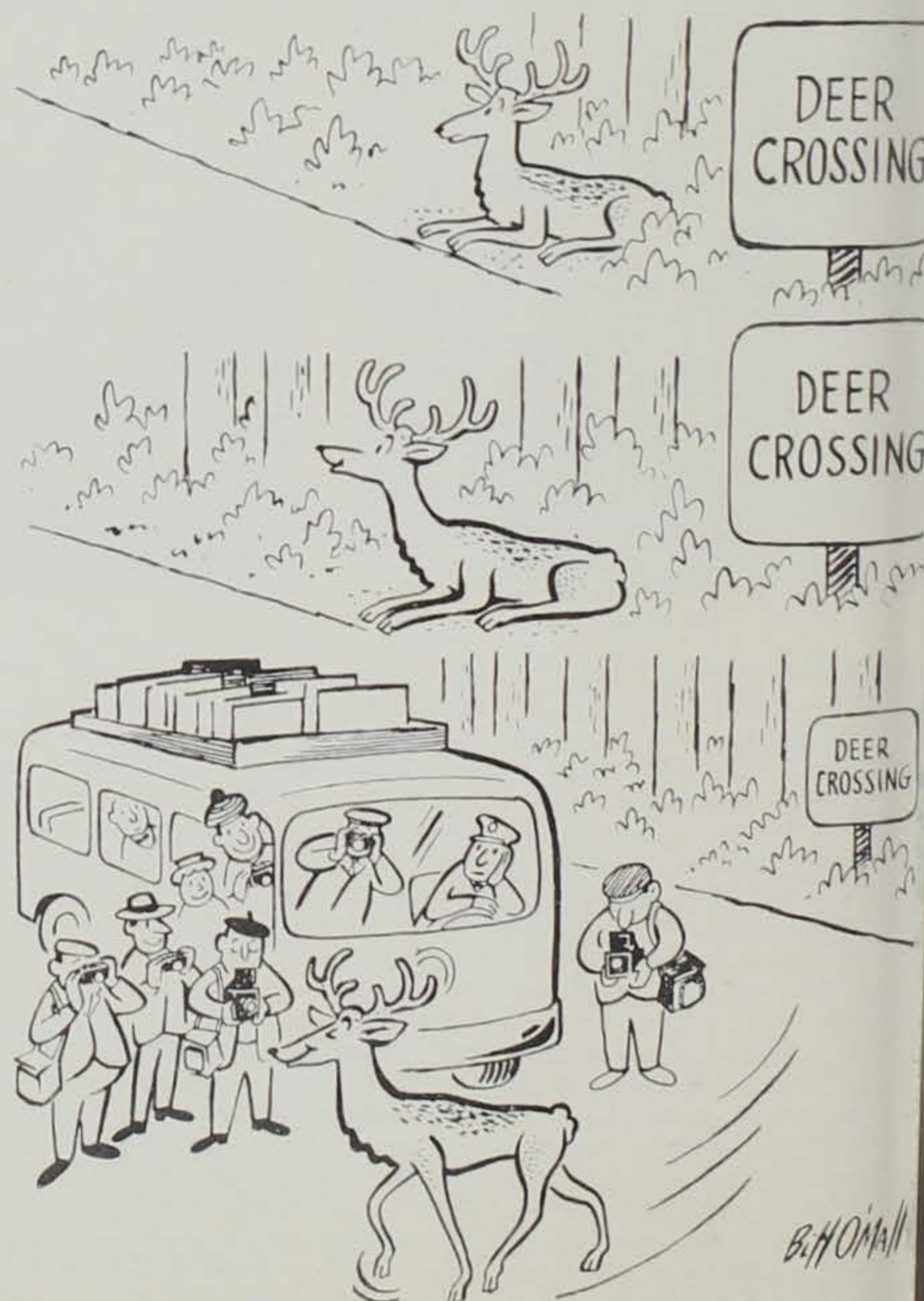
David H. Thompson

On October 29, 1959, a girl fell from her bicycle in an alley and probably was bitten by a bat lying on the ground. Fortunately, the bat was taken to the state public health laboratory where was found to be infected with rabies. The girl was promptly given the Pasteur treatment which protected her against possible infection by that disease.

The complete eradication of rabies in England has become a classic in medical history. Following an epidemic of the disease in 1897, the muzzling of all dogs in infected areas was made compulsory until the disease disappeared. There has been no death from rabies in England since 1904. A six-month quarantine on all imported dogs prevents its re-entry. Since then, several other western European countries, Australia and Hawaii have proved that rabies can be wiped out. Only two cases of human rabies were found in the United States in 1962.

Rabies, or hydrophobia, is one of the most dreaded diseases because of the extreme suffering the animal or person afflicted. A because it always ends in death. All warm-blooded animals are susceptible but it is spread most commonly by dogs because of the

(Continued on page 56)





Jim Sherman Photo

STILES MEMORIAL DEDICATED

A bronze plaque at Waubesa State Park was dedicated early last month to the memory of the late Bruce F. Stiles, Director of the State Conservation Commission from 1948 to 1959.

The dedication ceremony was held on one of the scenic overlooks of the boulder and plaque were placed.

Stiles was a native Iowan, born in Decorah in 1897. He started with the Commission in 1938 as a Conservation Officer for Pottawattamie and Mills Counties. Over the years he held positions as Chief of Fish and Game Division, Assistant Director, and Director. He served as Director of the Commission longer than any other man.

Stiles was well-known nationally and held high positions in several national conservation agencies. The plaque dedicated to his memory carries a quote from one of his writings: "Popular approval or disapproval will not alter the course of nature, and civil laws cannot abolish natural ones."

METHUSELAH II

Linda Pearson

Only this year after corresponding with a gentleman in Copenhagen, Denmark, we received information about what is supposed to be the "oldest gull in the world." The gull lives in Dragor. It was captured in October, 1922, by Otto Andersen, a lighthouse worker.

This bird is of the herring gull variety, called Silver Gull; Danish: Maage; Latin: *Larus Argentatus*.

While it is true that this gull has quite a long life span, it is over 40 years old is indeed old. The bird is white, with grey wings, and has a yellow patch with a red spot underneath. While on his daily trip to work at the lighthouse, Andersen, a lighthouse assistant in the Danish town of Dragor, noticed a gull sitting on a rock far from the shore. A few days later he noticed the gull again in the same spot. He approached it and, finding it very weak, captured it.

When the gull presented quite a problem. It was frightened of the lighthouse and new acquaintances. The bird refused to eat,

and was hand fed until it finally settled down and adjusted to its new life.

The Andersens named the gull "Claus," because everyone thought it was a "he." However, in a couple of years "she" began to lay eggs, so they quickly changed her name to "Clausine." Her eggs were wind-eggs (barren) so Andersen brought two gull eggs from a neighboring island. Clausine seemed to like being a mother for two or three months but she lost interest. One youngster drowned in a drinking basin and the other escaped.

After a number of years, the mother-instinct flourished again and the Andersens allowed Clausine to hatch some chicken and duck eggs. It was quite a sight after hatching when Clausine attempted feeding them regurgitated food. Although she was unsuccessful with these tactics, she did succeed in teaching them to hide when a cry of danger rang out. Before too long, however, she lost interest again and her "children" soon sought their natural behavior as ordinary chicks and ducklings.

Clausine could tolerate any of the animals in the poultry yard, but there was one animal she could not get along with. That was the Andersen's dog. They always shared a mutual dislike for one another.

Today, stiff-legged and quite often losing her balance, Clausine is living the life of a celebrity. She has become quite well-known and many ornithologists have made special trips to see her. She has made the rounds of several Danish and Swedish newspapers, and Andersen's widow has agreed to place the bird in the Danish Hunting Museum when it finally dies.

The male ostrich has several wives. They all lay their eggs in one nest, then leave all the hard work to father. He does almost all the work of hatching out his large family.

Although badgers usually live on plains and deserts, they can swim easily and rapidly and have been observed swimming as far as a half mile from any shore.

WILD GRAPES

Richard Headstrom

When the apples in the orchard begin to redden and the peaches to wear the blush of mellow ripeness, the grapes on trailing vines in our neighbor's garden or along the river's edge or woodland border serve notice by their bloom of freshness that their harvest is near at hand. Gone is the day when we paid a surreptitious visit to a forbidden arbor; now we must have recourse to the nearby market if we yearn for the juicy, luscious berries. Or, perhaps we may prefer to wander about the countryside and sample the wild varieties hanging in purplish clusters from winding stems that thread their way about stone walls or among the brambles in the thicket. True, they may not be as pleasing to the taste as the cultivated grapes and yet despite a somewhat musky odor, they are not unpleasant and for jelly are perhaps unequalled.

Grapes have served as food for man since time immemorial and as a beverage, too, lest we forget that wine is made from them. But in our selfish desire to satisfy our own needs, we must not be so naive to think that nature fashioned them for our use exclusively. We must remember that our wildlife also regard them with considerable favor and find them a useful source of food. Indeed, when we investigate the subject, we find a surprisingly large number of birds that feed on them. Among the game birds of the Northeast, the ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasant, bobwhite quail and wild turkey find them much to their liking. Forbush in his

"Useful Birds and Their Protection," says that wild grapes are eaten by all species of birds. Whether this is strictly true, many of our songbirds do include them in their diet. Waxwings are said to be very fond of them, as well as the robin, mockingbird, cardinal, catbird and the wood thrush, to name a few.

The birds, however, are not the only claimants to wild grapes since the skunk, raccoon, opossum, and black bear devour them freely and the red fox and the fox squirrel upon occasion. Doubtless there are other mammals, too, that eat them as a change from their normal diet. Even some insects—the rose chafer, the grapeberry moth, and the grape curculio—find the berries tempting morsels, as many who have grown grapes have discovered to their sorrow. These are only a few of the insect pests with which they have to contend; other species attack the leaves, stems and roots.

Apart from the fruit, the grapevine is of value to our wildlife in several other ways. The white-tailed deer browses on the stems and leaves, and in the summer the dense foliage provides excellent escape and shelter cover as well as nesting sites for the songbirds. Many of the latter, too, use the bark in nest building. And, lastly, we might add that the greenish flowers have a fragrance that is one of the most pleasing of odors in the wildwood.—*New York State Conservationist*.

Some snakes have been known to live for one to two years without food by absorbing the fat of their own bodies.

In migrating, the males of the red-wing blackbird travel together. The females follow a few weeks later.



"The world's oldest sea gull" is over forty years old, and lives in Denmark.

"LITTLE KNOWN" IOWA—

(Continued on page 49)

You might like Dolliver on the Des Moines River. The unique copperas beds, quiet glens, shaded brooks, and modern camping facilities combine to give you that solitude you have been seeking.

Try Pammel near Winterset for an area rich in plant life. Here is a quiet park off the mainstream with its own interesting features—the tunnel through the "backbone," the Middle River with good fishing, and the beauty of a quiet place.

Pilot Knob near Forest City should be on every camper's list. From the unusual sundew plants at Dead Man's Lake to the tower on the summit of the "knob" itself, we find an attractive, scenic location well worth a trip.

Wapsipinicon State Park near Anamosa has a list of features as long as the name. Interesting cave formations, good fishing, and good hiking. It certainly merits a weekend trip.

Have the kids ever seen a real grist mill—one that, with its water wheel turning, ground the flour for early settlers and helped open the land to civilization? Pine Creek Mill at Wild Cat Den between Davenport and Muscatine has been preserved for those who would like such an attraction. Here is a good hiking park with things to see and do—little things that will delight the youngsters and restore your peace of mind.

You really should give "Little-Known Iowa" a try. Plan a weekend trip to some of those areas which do not receive heavy use. A partial listing of other "Little-Known Iowa" sites is included on this page. For a more detailed listing write for the booklet, "Iowa's State-Owned Recreation Areas."

OTHER "LITTLE-KNOWN" IOWA AREAS

Bob White: 1 mile west Allerton. Offers fishing, picnicking, boating, swimming.

A. A. Call: 1½ miles S.W. Algonia. Offers camping, lodge, picnicking, trails.

Eagle Lake: 4 miles N. E. Britt. Offers boating, fishing, shelter, picnicking.

Echo Valley: Iowa 56, 3 miles S.E. West Union. Offers shelter, picnicking, hiking.

Fort Defiance: Iowa 9 and 245, 1 mile S.W. Estherville. Offers camping, lodge, picnicking, trails, historic interest.

Gitche Manitou: 9 miles N.W. Larchwood. Offers picnicking, shelter, geologic monument (ancient rock formations).

Heery Woods: Iowa 188, ½ mile S. Clarksville. Offers fishing, lodge, picnicking, hiking.

Lost Island Lake: 2½ miles N.E. Ruthven. Offers boating, fishing, shelter, picnicking.

Oakland Mills: Iowa 133, 4 miles S.W. Mt. Pleasant. Offers camping, fishing, picnicking, hiking.



Gitche Manitou gives you an "other world" feeling as you stroll among the oldest geological formations exposed in Iowa.

Okamanpedan: 3 miles N.E. Dolliver. Offers boating, fishing, shelter, picnicking, historic interest.

Preparation Canyon: Iowa 372, 5 miles S.W. Moorhead. Offers picnicking, hiking, historic interest.

Rice Lake: 2½ miles S.E. Lake Mills. Offers boating, fishing, golf (green fee), shelter, picnicking, swimming.

BIRD SONGS—

(Continued from page 51)

bird singing. This is generally correlated with high heat and wind. Midday singing does take place on cloudy days and light rain in itself has little effect on singing.

There are a few species that do sing throughout the day irrespective of man's generalities about when birds are "supposed" to sing. The red eyed vireo is the champion in this field and holds the world record of songs offered in one day. Hold onto your wigs, it is 22,197 songs in one day! Figure that out on an hourly or per minute of daylight basis and you will discover the reason why he has red eyes. He surely must stay up nights, "silently" eating!

Each individual song sparrow usually sings but one song and varies it little although each sparrow has from 7 or 8 to 20 different songs. No two song sparrows sing exactly the same notes but there is a typical song pattern that affords identification. Imagine the possible song sparrow dialects and language barriers on an average sized Iowa farm.

Forest inhabitants are reputed to be the best songsters. This idea comes from the notion that bird voice is more important where lack of visual communication exists. Can you think of any Iowa songster of the woodland that would prove this point?

When you think of bird song do not forget the vigorous rapping of the woodpecker family, the drumming of grouse, and the snapping of the owl's beak as an ominous warning to those harassing crows. These are termed mechanical bird songs.

There is apparently no easy, simple answer to the question, "WHY do birds sing" but what a wealth of enjoyment awaits the ear willing to pause for an extra moment and listen and wonder why.

DUTCH ELM—

(Continued from page 52)

you are dealing with and that recommended preventive procedures are being followed.

Dutch elm disease takes money—lots of it. This is true whether the elms are allowed to die or are protected with a control program. If you fall into the hands of a Dutch elm disease "expert" not only do you foolishly spend your money but you lose your valuable elm trees.

SQUIRRELS

Squirrels are inquisitive creatures and are often lured out by noises the hunter can make. A sucking sound made on the back of the hand will bring squirrels out of hiding. Scratching one coin on another also does an effective job of imitating the raspy chatter of another squirrel.

The goshawk usually nests in heavily forested areas. The bird is fierce in defense of its home and will not hesitate to attack human intruders.

The water ouzel of our western states swims, walks and "flies" under water.

RABIES—

(Continued from page 54)

biting habits and their close association with other animals and with men.

The disease is caused by a virus which is transmitted through saliva when an infected animal bites. From the wound the infection follows the nerves to the spinal cord and the brain. Symptoms of the disease may appear as early as two weeks or late as several months.

Two Types

The behavior of rabid dogs may be either the "furious" or "dumb" types. The former starts with a change in disposition followed for a few days by an excitable or furious stage when an animal snaps at anything in its path. Unless confined it may travel as much as twenty miles a day. The voice is hoarse and cracked. The end comes with convulsions and paralysis. A dumb type neither bites nor barks because the lower tongue and throat soon are paralyzed. Weak and depressed, it tries to crawl into a cool place to die.

Wild animals with rabies may have in either the furious or dumb manner. It is safest not to approach or handle animals found in the out-of-doors when they do show the usual tendency to show human beings. Leave them alone.

Rabies is one of the oldest known contagious diseases of man and animals. Aristotle described it 300 B.C., saying, "Dogs suffer from madness. It throws them into a state of fury, and all animals which are bitten are attacked with madness." Over the ages many attempts were made to cure this fearsome malady. At one time the use of "mad steers" from the intestines of deer and goats.

Pasteur's Treatment

The first effective treatment discovered in the 1880's by the great French scientist, Louis Pasteur. He repeatedly injected a weakened form of the virus into persons bitten by a rabid animal thus building up a resistance before the disease developed. A weakened virus was produced by drying the spinal cords of infected animals. Much the same method is still in use although the virus is sometimes taken from incubated chicken and duck eggs.

Rabies is one of nature's worst curbs overpopulation.

CANADA GEESE

Unlike their noisy cousins, Canada geese and their subspecies sometimes will stoil to the water with little or no sound. One day they are out of sight and the next, with little or no announcement, are over your spread. They are low, quiet and keep a sharp eye out at all times. Canadas are working your set.