

August, 1962

Number 8

TOP WATER LARGEMOUTH FISHING



Farm pond vegetation offers ideal spots for bass to hide.

Ken Madden

Superintendent of Fisheries

The common name largemouth bass aptly describes the family. These sh have that big mouth and huge gullet for practical reasons. They re fearless, but not foolish and they seemingly know when hey e about to be fooled. The importance of artful camouflage and the eptive presentation of objects that resemble their natural small enemies must be considered. For anglers take advantage the icious nature of bass and present baits and lures that resemble mices irds, frogs, crayfish, grasshoppers, and moths. Red and white, vellor and red, or black and white are attack signals to a bass.

Car pole, casting rod, spinning rod, and fly rod enthusiasts all the act with their specialty gear.

For nstance, the cane pole expert may stalk the bank, cautiously r use a boat. He artfully daps a live frog, or a floating artificial to the open water pockets amongst the lily pads or rushes. He is kes his favorite lure look alive and natural by using a fine mono ament line to add to the deception.

falles pird or frog. Heavier leader is required since retrieves fre-

quently have to be made through heavy vegetation. What a thrill to pull a three to six pound bass out of the lilies, keep him from running under his favorite stump or snag, and still get him through the pond weeds to the landing net! The bait fisherman is equally effective from shore or boat. Casting accuracy pays off with fishing success.

Spinning enthusiasts apply the same basic technique as the cane pole or the bait casting experts. However, they can use lighter weight lures extending the potential size range of the catch from ten-inches to ten pounds. The lighter monofilament line gives more deception but creates additional hazards in weedy areas where bass live. Lighter, more flexible rods add to the thrill of the catch. Whether it be a hungry bass taking a grasshopper, mouse or frog on a small hook, or a mean bass striking a floating red and white plug, more fish are caught with light tackle than with heavy tackle.

The fly rod fan comes into his own in surface fishing for largemouths. The expert has the most versatile tool, incorporating the length of the common cane pole with the ability to cast to distant pockets in the weeds and most important, to gently and naturally present tidbits and delicacies to the hungry bigmouth hiding under of ng rod enthusiasts use the casting reel to reach distant pock- the lily pads. Deer hair bugs, imitating mice; and artificial flies, imitheir favorite top water lures. Casting lures of necessity are tating grasshoppers, beetles, crickets, frogs, and emerging insect the I viest of all types of lures because the weight is necessary to hatches fool all sizes of bass. Once hooked the fun really begins. The listance in the cast. Deception is of prime importance in pre- light flexible fly rod bows and bends with every wiggle of the hooked live floating bait or artificial surface lures that imitate the fish. It's not a one-sided struggle, for the bass seems to know that (Continued on page 62)

lowa Conservationist

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COMMISSION MINUTES

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE.

Dr. A. N. Humiston of Cedar Rapids was elected chairman to succeed Clyde M. Frudden of Greene.

George Meyer of Elkader was elected vice-chairman for the coming year.

GENERAL

Travel was approved for three people to the Mississippi Flyway Council meeting at St. Louis, Missouri, August 1-3.

Approval was given for one per- tine County. son to travel to the National Conservation Education Association meeting at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, August 19-23.

COUNTY CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Calhoun County Conservation Lake. Board received approval for the acquisition of 18 acres at \$250 per acre as an addition to Hickory Grove Park located 61/2 miles northwest of Lake City.

Clayton County received approval for the acquisition of three acres of land at a cost of \$2,300 located one mile south of Elkader. Included in the purchase are two buildings.

Dubuque County received approval for the acquisition of two 40 acre parcels of land located on White Water Creek two miles south of Fillmore at a cost of \$4,-800. This area will be used for group camping, fishing access, hiking, and nature study.

Fayette County received approval for the acquisition of 60 acres at a total cost of \$6,000 located at the confluence of the Little Turkey River and Crane Creek. This area will be used for picnicking, camping, and fishing access.

Franklin County received approval for the acquisition of Wisner School and one acre of land as a gift from Wisner Township Trustees to be preserved as a historical monument.

a ten year lease at \$50 per year sion policy concerning state-owned and Emmerson Bay Access in of Outdoor Recreation as est on 5.41 acres located one mile docks was approved allowing a \$1 Dickinson County. southeast of Battle Creek on the per day charge for transient boats The Commission discussed the A resolution was passed fall Maple River to be used for fishing using these docks. access and picnicking.

for use as an outdoor classroom for schools.

Linn County received approval by schools.

lyn to be developed as a county Guard. recreational area.

Poweshiek County also received approval for a development plan for the above area to be used for baseball, tennis, horseshoe courts, shuffleboard courts, playground and picnic area.

LANDS AND WATERS

The Commission decided to hold a conservation officers examination and school late this fall to provide a new eligibility list for both Fish and Game, and Lands and Waters Officers.

Action was delayed on a request for road access at Provost Point on Blackhawk Lake in Sac County.

Action was also delayed on a request to construct a road through

Special regulations for operation of vessels on impoundments in Mitchell County were approved.

Approval was given for a construction permit for a private boat launching ramp on East Okoboji

Approval was given for a request to breach the river bank by Coon Valley Gravel Company.

The Commission decided not to renew leases for cottages now located in Palisades-Kepler State Park.

Approval was given to a request for permission to clean an island for a public recreation area on the Des Moines River near Fort Dodge.

Twin Lakes Restoration Association received approval for a fireworks display on that lake on the Fourth of July.

American Oil Company pipeline was given conditional approval to cross the Coon River at a different location if their specifications meet with the approval of the Engineering Section.

A report was given on dredging bids for North Twin Lakes and the Commission voted to accept the low bid submitted by L. H. Simkins of Augusta, Georgia, for \$188,149.70 for dredging 322,500 cubic yards of silt from North acres at a cost of \$20,000. Twin Lake.

FISH AND GAME

Keokuk County received ap- were approved for Otter Creek in the future. proval for a lease for 15 years on Tama County. One for \$650 for Purchase of a crawler-type trac- full cooperation with the Sl eight acres of land at \$8 per year 15 acres and the other one 120 tor by the game section was ap- Civil Defense office.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 317 of the IOWA STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

INISTRA

The State Conservation Commission at its meeting on June 6, 191 gift located near Hiawatha. This established the following rules and regulations as provided in Chapter of the control of the area is to be used as a botanical 87. Acts of the 59th General Assembly of Iowa. (a) A system and biological preserve for studies regulatory markers for use on all waters of the State to meet meet not provided by the U.S. Coast Guard system of navigational Poweshiek County received ap- and (b) A system of navigational aids for use on the waters of proval for a lease for 20 years at State not marked by the U. S. Coast Guard and/or not determine a cost of \$1 per year on 71/2 acres to be U.S. navigable waters; provided that such rules and regulation located at the north edge of Brook- shall not be in conflict with the markings prescribed by the U.S. Con

Definitions (as used in this Administrative Order)

- (a) Waterway Marker is any device designed to be placed in on near the water to convey an official message to a boat operate on matters which may affect health, safety, or well being cept that such devices of the U.S. or any agency of the Uni States are excluded from the meaning of this definition
- (b) Regulatory Marker is a waterway marker which has no equi lent in the U.S. Coast Guard system of navigational aids.
- (c) State Aid to Navigation is a waterway marker which is equivalent of a U.S. Coast Guard aid to navigation.
- (d) Buoy is any device designed to float which is anchored in water and which is used to convey a message.
- (e) Sign is any device for carrying a message which is attach to another object such as a piling, buoy, structure or the liv itself.
- (f) A Display Area is the area on a sign or buoy needed for display of a waterway marker symbol.
- (g) Symbols are geometric figures such as a diamond, circle it tangle, etc., used to convey a basic message.

Wildcat Den State Park in Musca- Regulation 1. Waterway Markers Used on the Waters of This 80 Shall Be as Follows:

- (a) State Aids to Navigation:
 - (1) A red-topped white buoy, red buoy, or si shall indicate that side of a channel to be ke to the right of a vessel when entering channel from the main water body or wh proceeding upstream.
 - (2) A black-topped white buoy, black buoy, sign shall indicate that side of a channel unity be kept to the left of a vessel when enter the channel from the main water body when proceeding upstream.
 - (3) A black and white vertically striped buoy sign shall indicate the center of a navigi waterway.
 - (4) Buoys or signs in (a) and (b) above sil normally be used in pairs and only for purpose of marking a clearly defined change
 - (5) A red and white vertically striped buoy sign shall indicate boats should not pass tween buoy and nearest shore.
 - (6) State aids to navigation shall be number or lettered for identification. Red buoys signs marking channels shall be identil with even numbers, and black buoys signs marking channels shall be identil with odd numbers, the numbers increas from the main water body or proceeding stream. Buoys and signs indicating the ter of a waterway will be identified by left of the alphabet. All numbers and letters I to identify state aids to navigation shall preceded by the letters "IA".
 - (7) Letters and numerals used with state to navigation shall be white, in block co (Continued on page 59)

The Highway Commission was The Commission passed a " given approval for a request to lution indicating its support Ida County received approval on An amendment to the Commis- alter the road adjacent to Garlock bills concerning the new Bur

> possibility of acquiring and devel- ing surplus property bills now Two options for land purchase oping a large waterfowl area in fore Congress.

proved.

lished by Congress.

A motion was passed offer

3 7 DM ISTRATIVE ORDER—

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(Continued from page 58)

acters of good proportion and spaced in a manner which will provide maximum legibility. Such letters and numerals shall be at least 6 inches in height.

(8) The shapes of state aids to navigation shall be compatible with the shapes established by Coast Guard regulations for the equivalent Coast Guard aids to navigation.

(9) Where reflectorized materials are listed, a red reflector will be used on a red buoy, and a green reflector on a black buoy.

(b) Regulatory Markers:

(1) A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall indicate danger. The nature of the danger may be indicated by words or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above and/or below it on white background.

(2) A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of the same color within it against a white center without qualifying explanation shall indicate a zone from which all vessels

are excluded.

(3) A circle of international orange with white center will indicate a control or restriction. The nature of the control or restriction shall be indicated by words, numerals, and/or well known abbreviations in black letters inside the circle. Additional explanation may be given above and/or below it in black letters on white background.

(4) A rectangular shape of international orange with white center will indicate information, other than a danger, control or restriction, which may contribute to health, safety or well being. The message will be presented within the rectangle in black letters.

(5) Letters or numerals used with regulatory markers shall be black, in block characters of good proportion, spaced in a manner which will provide the necessary degree of visibility.

Authority to Place Markers.

(a) No waterway marker shall be placed on, in, or near the waters of the State unless such placement is authorized by the agency or political subdivision of the State exercising jurisdiction, with respect to regulation of boating, over the area where placed, except that the provisions of this section shall not apply to private aids to navigation under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard.

(b) Such agency or political subdivision of the State will, prior to authorizing placement, obtain the necessary clearances of federal and/or state agencies exercising regulatory authority over the area

concerned.

(c) The agency or political subdivision of the State weeks. The place was Des Moines authorizing the placement of a waterway marker will inform the State Conservation Commission of the following:

(1) Exact location of the marker, expressed in distance and direction from one or more fixed warden comes into the cave carryobjects whose precise location is known.

(2) The description and purpose of the marker out a paddle) and slams it down birds, no fire, no guns, no boats-" including its identifying number, if any.

Maintenance of Waterway Markers. Waterway markers shall be maintained in proper condition, or be replaced or removed.

in blo legs ation 4. Display of Waterway Markers.

(a) A waterway marker may be displayed as a sign or a fixed support, as a buoy bearing a symbol on its surface, or as a sign mounted on a buoy.

(b) When a buoy is used to carry a symbol on its sur- chisel out a news release and I'm face, it will be white, with bands of international not about to have my chiselers orange on the top, and at the bottom above the work overtime just because some waterline.

(c) A buoy whose sole purpose is to carry a sign above it will be marked with three bands of inter- that paddlefish necklace fad," said national orange alternating with two bands of the warden. "My mate is wearing American mammal. Its forebears white, each band occupying approximately one- six paddles and they're breaking fifth of the total area of the buoy above the water- her neck." (Continued on page 64)

PREHISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Stan Widney

something or other and write to know." us expecting a brochure or answer that will save them the trouble. "Women! The least they could do The girls do their best to answer with the paddlefish is take them everything one way or another, home and cook them." but sometimes they're stuck.

wrote in wanting to know about yet." the prehistoric animals of Iowa. Everybody shook their heads, then looked at me. "Stan should know. Answer the letter, Stan," just like I'd been around for one million years or so.

Now I like history, the kind that goes back a hundred years. I admit I cover that distance by word of mouth, but as to finding out what roamed the hills and dales of Iowa before the glaciers is not my category. I told the boss so and he said, "Oh, use your imagination. It's just like a science fiction story

The time was 2,000,000 years ago, give or take a couple of in the State cave at East 7th and Court. This cave was not air-conditioned and still ain't.

It's Monday morning and a game they won't 'till the tertiary age." ing a 10 pound paddlefish (with- know, ours is not a bad age. No before the superintendent of Public Relations.

story out on this. It's the 14th fish ting the CONSERVATIONIST out on I've found with its paddle sawed time. Still, there's a couple of off. You know that's illegal."

"Now take it easy," says the super. "It takes two weeks to gal wants a necklace."

"I wish women would get over

"My mate goes for Stegosaurus tiger,

We get a lot of letters in Public plates," said the super. "They are Relations from students who have not only heavy, they-they," he been asked to write papers on paused and shuddered. "Well, you

"Yeah," agreed the warden.

"Don't be stupid," said the Like the other day when a gal super, "fire hasn't been discovered

> "Oh, that's right. Say," the warden changed the subject abruptly, "I arrested a guy for stoning pterosauria out of season."

"Oh?" the super brightened. "How's the prospect for 'sourias next season?"

"Pretty good, if reports from the flyways are true. Still, if something isn't done about that Brontosaurus herd down at Forney Lake—" the warden shook his head sadly.

"Now, now," the super shook a finger under the warden's nose, "you have no proof that the bronto is a predator."

"Well, something's getting those birds already!"

"Getting what?"

"Oh, I forgot, Birds haven't appeared on the scene yet either." "Heck no," said the super, "and

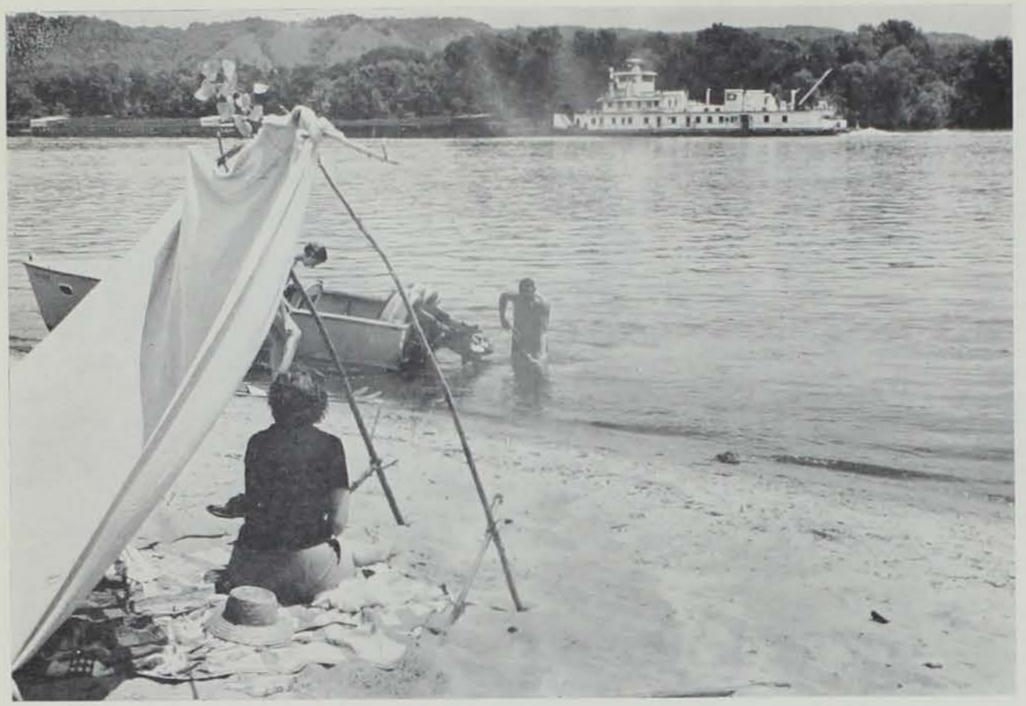
"Say," mused the warden, "you

"And no paper!" said the grinning super. "Think. If we had "You guys will have to get a paper I'd be worrying about getdrawbacks we have. No coffee, so we can't take a coffee break."

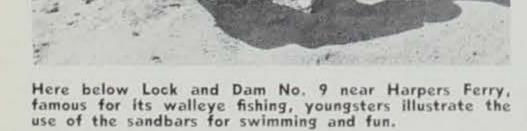
> "Yeah, there's that. What else?" "We can't converse yet. We can only make signs and grunts."

"By golly, that's right. Ugh!" "Ugh!"

The opossum is the oldest living date back unchanged to the age of the mastodon and saber-toothed

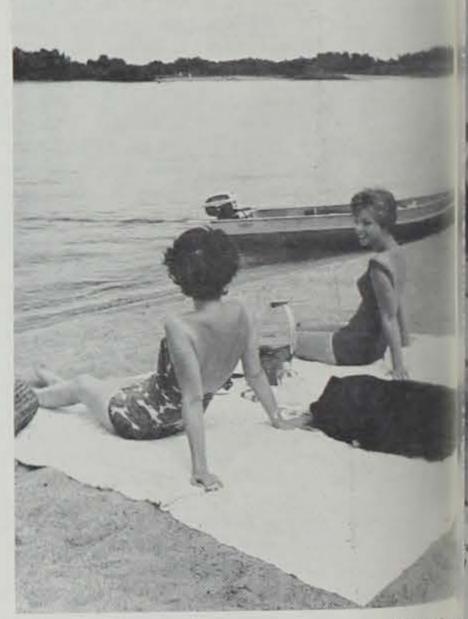


The Mississippi is important not only to commercial interests, but to the recreation-minded lowan.





At the first point above Lansing, some Waterloo Boy Scouts enjoy their recreational opportunities.



FUN

A modern twist is being given to the old traditional lure of the riverboats on the mighty Mississippi. Today's version of yesteryear's stern-wheelers is an outboard-powered family houseboat with accommodations for easy living during a weekend or extended vacation along Iowa's many miles of river shoreline. Easing along from one sandbar to another, to fish, swim, suntan water-ski, or just plain loaf and sight-see, old man river is a

Beneath the towering bluffs of our eastern counties winds a waterway of fun. From stumpy bass waters, to green islands, along the quaint shores of ancient river towns with their fish nets drying in the warm sun, past summer cottages in the shadow of the stolid control dams, the modern inland sailor moves into a new

kind of fun with the added zest of being a do-it-yourself river pilot.

e distance, le iten som

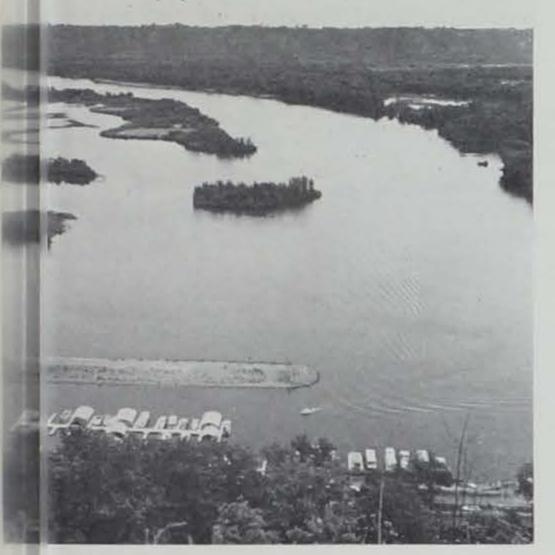
gracious host.

A quick run up the river and these Lansing High School girls can sun on the sand.



The entrance to DeSoto Slough is an extremely popular fishing spot.

SANDBAR

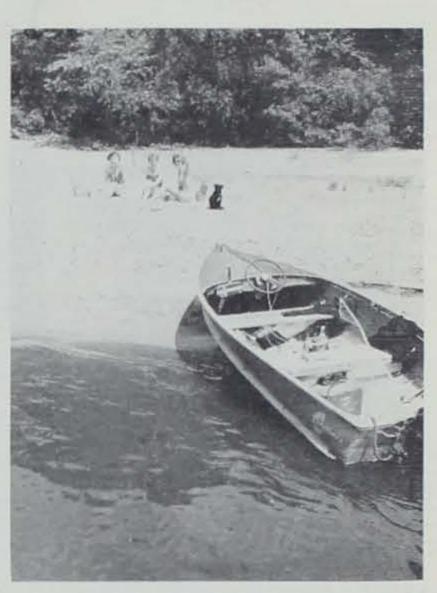


distance, across the channel from the Lansing Marina seen some of the popular sandbars.



Sunbathing and reading atop their houseboat makes a fine vacation for this Bettendorf family.

Photo Feature by Jim Sherman



Pretty girls sunning on a sandbar can turn the eye of any boater.



Moor to a sandbar, this Hudson, Iowa, family can many facets of the Mississippi.



Camping and sunning are common Mississippi sights.



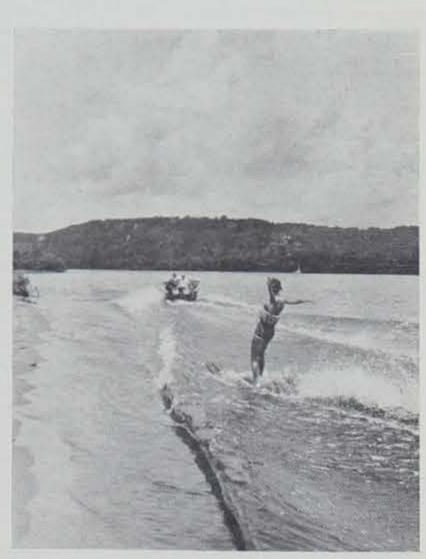
The houseboat has come into its own as the perfect vehicle for a family vacation.



Thise oup from Garnavillo finds lots of company on a popular



All in a row—as a Des Moines man hosts a group from Texas, Louisiana, and Tennessee.



Water-skiing, camping, and boating form the elements of this Jefferson family's vacation.

STORM LAKE'S NEW ISLAND

Denny Rehder

Those familiar with Storm Lake know that the lake is subject to considerable wave action when the winds are strong. It lies out in the open exposed to the elements-a huge expanse of water only a few feet deep. The poor watershed ratio of 7:1 barely replaces the moisture lost through evaporation.

A dredge has been working at Storm Lake for some time now lowering the silt and increasing the depth in dredged areas to around fourteen feet.

Most spectacular in the operation however is the creation of an island. The reasons for creating an island in Storm Lake are numerous. First, there was a lack of adequate fill area for the silts being taken from the lake. Second, was the poor watershed ratio, and the fact that Storm Lake is rough and shallow. It was thought that a series of islands on the lake would break up the wave action. are easily seen here. And, it was hoped that by decreasing the water area, the lake size. That part of the ring dike ratio.

mented late last fall by putting a sink from sight. small island in the lake. The island It will take many years to staremained through the winter and bilize this island and the other dredge out on the lake and start to help prevent erosion. building a ring dike.

The construction of the island will involve four basic steps. First, a ring dike must be raised; this dike will look like a doughnut in the water. A second ring dike will be raised around the first and the area between the two filled. After the dike is stable, the dredge will start to fill the open center section. The dikes are needed to hold LARGEMOUTHSthe silt from washing away.

themselves stable, they are being snags or weeds and frequently built from mudballs. Mudballs are does just that. To the hooked formed when material from the bass the eternal elasticity of the bottom is picked up, but very little fly rod is his undoing. water added as it moves from the As the bass eyes the whole horidredge through the line to the zon of the pond surface for food, site of the island. This line is ex- so it is with the angler looking better than the straight silt.

yards-a-day output at present.

island will be about fifty acres in mouth bass fishing really begins! help could mean a reimbursement for next spring.



Out in Storm Lake the dredge pumps away, building the first of a series of islands. The mudballs used to raise the ring diti' and we con

level might become more stable now in place is extremely unstable, due to a more favorable watershed and people are warned not to attempt a landing on the island. The Engineering Section experi- There's no guarantee you won't

was covered by high water in the three that are tentatively planned. spring. This optimistic note en- Purple willow and Reed's canary couraged the men to move the grass will be planted on the islands

cessful, Storm Lake's beauty will be enhanced to a considerable degree. The islands will offer future sites for camping, picnicking, and other forms of recreation. But in True, trees are not an annual inaccessible fields and the acres the meantime, stay off! They're still nothing but treacherous mud.

(Continued from page 57)

In order to make the ring dikes light leaders can be broken in

tended about twice as far as over the entire state. He finds big necessary in order that the mud and good bass in the Mississippi will start to roll through the lines. and Missouri River backwaters, When the material comes out of the natural lakes, sluggish rivers, the line onto the ring dike it's in over-flow ponds, farm ponds, city mudballs about the size of your reservoirs, and artificial lakes. fist. These mudballs will hold Since the bass has morning and At present the dredge is run- cies, the angler must be on the best be answered by the forester in the season, it may mean wait ning ten hours a day, six days a scene at the right time. The bass or the other conservation techniweek. Another operator is being may be temperamental and un- cians in your county. They know planting program. trained so the dredge can be put cooperative; or they may be on a the requirements for each tree Remember, trees can be a sou on a twenty hour a day schedule, very selective food binge. The species and will recommend the of income on presently unproc This would double the 2,800 cubic clever angler determines this, fools trees that are best suited to the tive ground, trees beautify y the bass, and makes him mad particular soil types, slope aspects, farm and provide excellent wile Right now the part of one ring enough to strike floating food, be and other conditions on your farm. cover, and trees are like a savi dike in existence is about a thou- it real or imitation. Through the raised when you consider that the retreat, and then top water large- program. This federal government should begin planning immedia

WHAT ABOUT TREE PLANTING?

Duane E. Stoppel District Forester

trees? What kinds of trees should of your tree seedlings and the co Lig and log I plant? Where should I plant of planting them. these trees? When should I con- The question, where should the about tact the forester or other conserva- plant my trees, can be answered tion technician to help me in simply. Almost every farm planning for my tree planting? Iowa has a few acres that a Each year these are questions presently unproductive or the

is that if you have unproductive acres too steep for farming acres they can, in most cases, be that are severely eroded and gi made productive by raising trees. lied. They are the acres in sm farm crop such as corn or beans, odd corners that have never plan but they are a periodic farm crop duced a steady income. All that can, over a period of years, these areas can be made profital produce a fair income. This in- with the proper trees planted come would begin in 6-8 years as them and with the proper main a thinning for Christmas trees, nance, In another 10 to 20 years a second thinning would be made, producing the forester or other technicis a crop of posts, pulpwood, and to help me in planning for poles. The last harvest of your tree planting? The answer is ril tree crop would begin about 50 now. It is true most of the years after planting, in the form planting in Iowa is done in of small sawlogs.

of beauty on the land, a wonderful long and the forester and wildlife area, and as you can see, other conservation technicians a form of savings account or life at their busiest from January insurance that is constantly draw- through this six weeks plant ing interest and readily available season, all the planning should

They can also give you all the account or life insurance po sand feet long. It's going to take angler's skill this food just hap- particulars concerning govern- to be drawn on at any time; a while to get the ring dikes pens to land in Mr. Bass's favorite ment ACP help in your planting to have these things now,

Should I plant an acreage to of up to 80 per cent of the co and with wi

If the island project proves suc- many landowners ask themselves, would be more productive The answer to the first question planted to trees. These are tho

Last of all, when should I all early spring, but since the pla s Your trees will also be a source ing season is only about 6 well in case of a financial emergency. completed before the rush sea What kind of trees to plant can begins. If you ask for help I

skson C mmi by and he Green Is

Ma is a fo

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er, and provide ike. In f mrea. t Ittle cra n and ward Snag

This Lity or in g THY look Evergia

)WA EVERGLADES

everend Lawrence Nelson

Green Island.

rd Snag Slough.

is true that we were equipped various kinds of fishing gear, ur in assortment of bait, but our object was sight-seeing. The the fish were not biting!

t we could have caught fish me. This was not our major in going. We wanted a ely look at what is termed 'Everglades of Iowa." And, inly, this is exactly what it legiost beautiful. The meanderof a lough with its multitudes of and logs made the maneug of the boat a watchful task. Wife abounded everywhere, it

rtles tumbled from logs when wo ot too close, and occasionally ubborn "hard-back" refused inquish his perch for our apshing boat. Even a stick ford out of into the water near him d of our boat the muskrats the and it happened al times that a rat, surprised officers. Ir coming, turned its stern to hd ight and burrowed into the is of the water. In the clear h water we could see the rats ming under the surface, and mil eled at their otter-like agility n le water.

> on decided that the hens were the Bellevue Herald-Leader. on their nests or brooding a of ducklings somewhere,

50 of them. Perched in the and body. hy area, they seemed to have ye for us and the other on No little wonder that the eaten.

McMAHON'S BOYS CAMP

Now in its sixteenth year, ere were three of us who took McMahon's Boys Camp once again g-planned trip last Wednesday took over the group camp at noon, and it was right here Springbrook State Park, as ckson County. We tossed an youngsters from five counties reinum boat into a pickup ceived four days of instruction and headed for Fish Lake and recreation from Conservation Officers.

is is a focal point in the pub- The camp was started by a unting grounds of the Green Conservation Officer in Greene and d Bottoms. The road is all- Carroll Counties. Since that time her, and an enviable parking it has grown to be a popular part or s provided on the shores of of the summer for many boys. make. In fact, it makes a good The camp is staffed by Conservaon c area, too. But we weren't tion Officers, but the whole venon picnicking, so we launched ture is a cooperative project of ittle craft, attached a small several sportsmen's groups in the r, and headed eastward area. Sixty boys from 12 to 15 years old are handled at the fourday camp. They are instructed in conservation practices, trapping, hunting, and fishing. Personnel from the Conservation Commiswe achieved, particularly sion supply the technical knowledge that is necessary when dealing with fish and game management and conservation of re-

> The camp annually costs around \$600, and usually breaks even. McMahon's Boys Camp has garnered an enviable reputation. The combination of field trips, expert instruction, and good fun stays with the boys for a number of years. It's a long-range program of education that seems to be paying off in increased awareness about the problems faced in con-

McMahon's is only one of several similar camps promoted by Conservation Officers throughout the state. These camps provide opand the to rouse the sleeping turtle. portunities for youngsters to work with conservation first-hand, under the guidance of their local

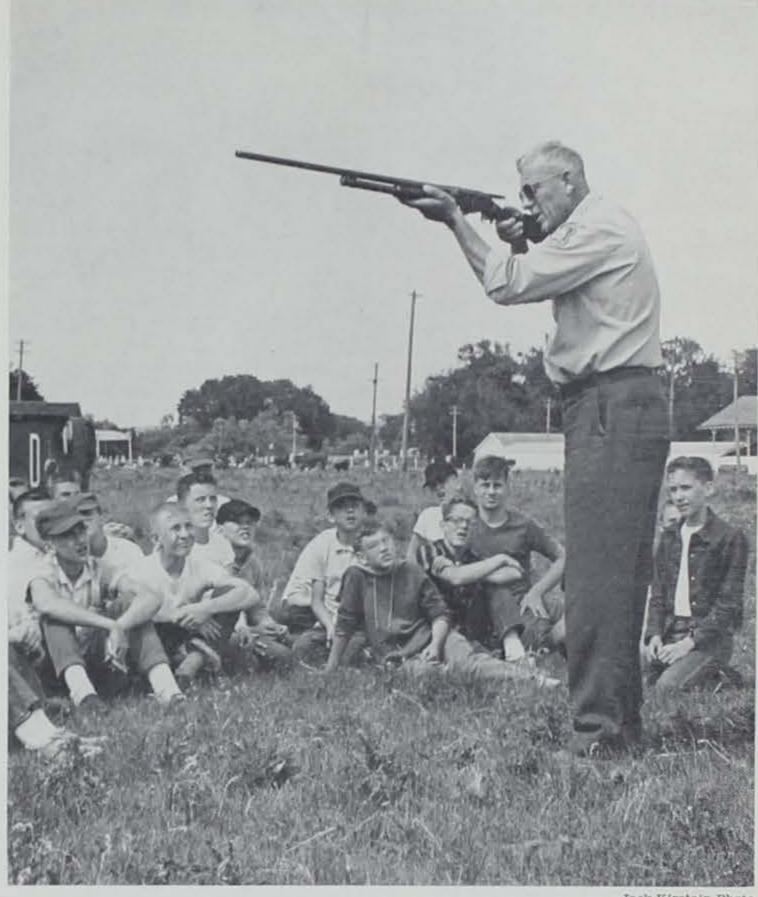
> women of yesterday wanted this for their hats.

When we reached the end of the trip, on the banks of the Mississippi, we opened a lunch box and uncorked the coffee bottle. equently a pair of wood ducks Our thanks to a good cook that dart across our path, or had presumed upon our appetites. in a specially prepared nest After lunch we headed the craft hed to a tree along the toward Fish Lake again, and made h. We were quite surprised the return trip in slow time, to a number of mallard drakes absorb as much as we could of 'egated in various pools, and this natural beauty. You know, lated that they too have friend, it is relaxing to go slow affairs." But upon contem- once in a while! Reprinted from

The echidna is a toothless creagreen-heads" were especially ture and lives upon ants which it ul in their early summer captures by means of its sticky and swam lazily as we went tongue.

the flooded cornfields near The giraffe has the longest neck ake we observed what ap- of any living animal. Its tiny head d to be white egrets, more is out of all proportion to neck

The color of trout flesh does not of food that might come by. aid in identification as many fisherwhite plumage had a special men suppose. The color depends on as the noon sun hit their the kind of food the trout has



Boy-Campers get some expert advice on shooting from their Conservation Officer.



Fishing is a part of most lowa boys, and the right way to fish is important to them. Here an officer illustrates some of the finer points of angling,

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER-

(Continued from page 59)

line, except where the sign itself carries orange bands; however, nothing in these regulations will be construed to prohibit the mounting of a sign on a buoy which has been placed for a purpose other than that of carrying a sign.

(d) When symbols are placed on signs, a suitable white background may be used outside of the symbol.

Specifications for Waterway Markers. Regulation 5.

- (a) The size of a display area shall be as required by circumstances, except that no display area shall be smaller than one foot in height. The size shall increase in increments of six inches, provided, however, that this specification for increase in increments shall not apply to markers in existence prior to the adoption of this regulation.
- (b) The thickness of the symbol outline shall be onetenth of the height of the display area.
- (c) The outside width of the diamond, the inner diameter of the circle, and the average of the inside and outside widths of a square shall be two-thirds of the display area height.
- (d) The sides of the diamond shall slope at a 35 degree this marsh. Upon getting from the angle from the vertical on a plane surface. Approximate adjustments for curvature may be made when applied to a cylindrical surface.
- (e) Materials. Waterway markers shall be made of materials which will retain, despite weather and other exposures, the characteristics essential to their basic significance, such as color, shape, legibility and position. Reflectorized materials may be used.

Regulation 6. Other Waterway Marking Devices.

- (a) Mooring Buoys. In order that mooring buoys shall the place protesting this invasion not be mistaken for aids to navigation or regula- of their privacy. As our boat tory markers, they shall be white, with a blue started edging its way through the band clearly visible above the waterline, provided rushes, black terns voiced their obthat the provisions of this section shall not apply jections to our movements. until July 1, 1963 to such devices located within an officially established mooring area.
- (b) Markers such as mooring buoys and race course nest before she left. Another markers will be processed in the same manner as grebe's nest erupted into activity waterway markers, and authorization for their as we drew close. Little grebes placement will be obtained from the agency or too small to stand up pushed off political subdivision of the state exercising juris- the nest into the water where they diction with respect to regulation of boating, and swam like little fish. such agency or political subdivision will assure that proper clearances for their placement are ob- a redhead jumped and flew across tained from State and Federal agencies exercising the marsh. Upon inspection, her regulatory authority over the area concerned.
- (c) Such markers shall not be of a color, shape, con-dozen eggs, which were apparentfiguration or marking which could result in their ly in the late stages of incubation. confusion with any Federal or State aid to navigation or any State regulatory marker, and shall rushes into an open area, we saw not be placed where they will obstruct navigation, a muskrat sleeping in the sun. He cause confusion, or constitute a hazard.

Regulation 7. The Divers Flag.

- (a) A red flag with a white diagonal running from the spooked when he saw us so close! upper left hand corner to the lower right hand corner (from mast head to lower outside corner) lard and her brood paddling into and known as the "Divers Flag" shall, when dis- some cover. Blue-winged teal, malplayed on the water, indicate the presence of a lards, redheads, and coot were diver in the water in the immediate area.
- (b) Recognition of this flag by regulation will not be An interesting sight was the construed as conferring any rights or privileges discovery of a ruddy duck nest on its users, and its presence in a water area will with eight giant eggs. The ruddy not be construed in itself as restricting the use is a small duck, but its eggs rival
- caution commensurate with conditions indicated.
- (d) This flag shall be displayed only when diver activi- different colloquial names. They gathering place was marked ties are in progress, and its display in a water area are excellent divers and often seek three fires on a high hill. The when no diver activities are in progress in that this as a means of escape. and of Chapter 87, Acts of the 59th General As- Lake we were attracted by the Fires" or "gathering place." Lake sembly.

This order shall be effective after filing in the office of the Secretary moved over toward the grove of in Taylor County. The park of the State and published in the Des Moines Register, Des Moines, dead trees that forms their rook- varied facilities - swimming Iowa.

GLEN G. POWERS, Director State Conservation Commission

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Goose Lake—A Wonderful Variety

Denny Rehder

If you enjoy wildlife and like to view creatures in their native habitat, a marsh area would be the ticket for you. Marshes support a great variety of bird, animal, and insect life.

One of Iowa's finest marsh areas for sheer variety is Goose Lake, a 450-acre reclaimed natural marsh near Jefferson in Greene County. This marsh is a state-owned public hunting area well known to many central Iowa duckhunters. During the summer it provides nesting sites for many types of waterfowl.

A recent trip to Goose Lake serves as a good illustration of what you might see on a visit to car we immediately spotted a Florida gallinule and her brood. The Florida gallinule is an uncommon sight in Iowa and is distinguished from coots by the red bill; coots have white bills.

A coot pattered on the water to take to the air, leaving her nest with its incubating eggs. Yellowheaded blackbirds were all over

Up ahead of us we saw a piedbilled grebe carefully covering her

Ahead of our boat a little way nest was found to house an even

Moving quietly through the didn't wake up until the boat nudged his perch - he really

To the west we spotted a malflying over the area constantly.

those of our largest ducks in size. for a custom of Indians when go (c) Operators of vessels will, however, exercise pre- The ruddy has the distinction of ting together for councils at being the only bird known by 98 powwows. The location of

> numbers of black-crowned night of Three Fires is a popular low herons in the areas. We finally park located just north of Bedfol A ery. As we approached, the black- the supervised beach, boatin crowns spooked, setting up a fuss fishing, refreshments, picnickin that was worse than a bunch of hiking, and camping.



Yellow-Crowned Night Heron

panicked hybrid chickens. only were they noisy, but I were messy! The trees and near were whitewashed and the your sat in the trees quietly regure tating when the excitement too much for them. Although W weren't hit, the water resounde with the plopping of expectorate food.

Near the edge of the rooker we found a nesting yellow-crowlle night heron. Whereas the black crowned is a common migrant as summer resident, the yellor crowned is classified as a rare itor in Iowa. More sedate the the excitable black-crowns, yellow-crown let us get with twenty feet of her before she surely flew away.

On our way back to the car " found a coot nest with one little bird fresh out of the eggshell. Lil tle coots have a reddish down their heads which distinguished them from all other young birds Terribly ugly and unable to wall the little fellow squirmed along un til he hit the water-then he swall like a fish.

This is a brief preview of what to expect in a fine marsh like Goose Lake. The colorful variet of abundant animal life will light and entertain you.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Lake of Three Fires was name is such a prominent hill at 11 h All during our stay at Goose park, hence the name "Thri