Fish and Game Bulletin

Divisional Activities of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game
FISH AND GAME BULLETIN
FEBRUARY, 1958
A MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN FOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME
COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

I'D LIKE TO START MY CONTRIBUTION TO THIS MONTH'S BULLETIN ON A RATHER PERSONAL NOTE. THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF TIMES IN THE PAST WHEN I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF FAMILY ILLNESS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE "FISH AND GAME FAMILY." PART OF THE BENEFITS OF BELONGING TO AN ORGANIZATION SUCH AS OURS IS THAT WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER IN TIMES OF DIFFICULTY. SO PLEASE DON'T IGNORE THE BOSS IF THE GOING GETS ROUGH, SINCE I WOULD APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEND ANY ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE IN CASES OF ILLNESS AND HARDSHIP.

LAST MONTH I MENTIONED THE BOAT SAFETY PROBLEM AND THE POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION COMING UP NEXT SESSION. IN YOUR DEALINGS WITH THE PUBLIC CONCERNING BOAT SAFETY I WOULD LIKE EACH MEMBER OF THE DEPARTMENT TO EMPHASIZE VERY STRONGLY THAT THE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT IS NOT SPONSORING ANY LEGISLATION ALONG THESE LINES. IF NEW LAWS ARE FORMULATED, AND IF THIS DEPARTMENT IS GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ENFORCING THEM, WE WILL BE CONCERNED WITH (1) ENFORCABILITY OF NEW BOATING LAWS, AND (2) MEANS OF FINANCING ADDITIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COSTS.

Seldom does this Department receive letters from clubs in both southern and northern sections concerning a situation developing in one particular section of the state. This has been the case concerning the proposed dam for Rankin Rapids on the St. John River in northern Maine. Because of the state-wide interest shown, it would be well for every Department member to familiarize himself with this situation by reading Fishery Biologist Ken Warner's "PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED RANKIN RAPIDS DAM ON THE FISHERIES OF THE UPPER ST. JOHN RIVER BASIN."

BRIEFLY, DEVELOPMENTS BEHIND THE RANKIN RAPIDS DAM PROPOSAL ARE AS FOLLOWS. FUTURE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE ST. JOHN RIVER ARE BEING CONSIDERED BY BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION. THE DAM WHICH HAS BEEN PROPOSED FOR THE RANKIN RAPIDS WOULD BE 5,900 FEET LONG AND 285 FEET HIGH. THE RESULTING FLOWAGE WOULD INUNDATE 47,650 ACRES OF LAND AND CREATE AN ARTIFICIAL LAKE 45 MILES LONG AND 1 1/2 MILES WIDE. THIS WOULD FLOOD OUT LARGE SECTIONS OF THE ST. JOHN, ALLAGASH, AND LITTLE BLACK RIVERS, AND BE A SERIOUS BLOW TO SOME OF THE FINEST BROOK TROUT FISHING IN THE STATE. YELLOW PERCH WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO UPPER ALLAGASH WATERS ALONG WITH OTHER SPECIES NOT NATIVE TO THE AREA.

AS AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN THE U. S. BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE AND THIS DEPARTMENT ARE BACKING A PLAN WHICH WOULD CALL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH DAM, RESERVOIR AND POWER PLANT AT BIG RAPIDS ON THE ST. JOHN RIVER ABOVE DICKEY, AND A LOW DAM, RESERVOIR AND POWER HOUSE ON THE RIVER AT LINCOLN SCHOOL. THIS ALTERNATE PLAN, WHILE IT WOULD NOT CREATE AS MUCH POWER POTENTIAL, WOULD LEAVE THE ALLAGASH UNAFFECTED AND NOT INCREASE THE PROBABLE DAMAGE TO THE FISHERY ON OTHER SECTIONS OF THE ST. JOHN DRAINAGE.
A study of lake trout (togue) in Thompson Lake, Androscoggin, Cumberland, and Oxford Counties started in October, 1955, with the trapping and gillnetting of spawning fish. This study was originally planned to parallel similar work done on Cold Stream Pond, Penobscot County, in order that comparisons could be made of lake trout populations in two lakes located in different climatic zones within the State.

As field work progressed, it was apparent that lake trout were not growing at a rate considered normal in other Maine lakes of similar biological structure. Project plans were then altered and intensified to provide data which would answer the question: "Why aren't lake trout growing in Thompson Lake?"

Spawning lake trout are trapped and gillnetted as they enter shallow water during October and November. Fish are measured, weighed, tagged with a metal jaw tag, and scale samples taken for age determinations. A creel census of the winter and summer fisheries is conducted where biologists personally contact all fishermen for their daily fishing success. The creel census serves an important role in recovering tagged fish, providing additional age and growth information, and supplementing seasonal food studies.

Since this project will continue for two more years, the analysis of data is not available. To fulfill the requirements of a progress report, however, the following figures and information were prepared and included in this writing.

Total numbers of fish trapped and netted on spawning grounds each year from 1955 to 1957 include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fishermen have accounted for 128 of the total of tagged fish at-large in four seasons of fishing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Season)</th>
<th>Tagged Fish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1956 (winter)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956 (summer)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957 (winter)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957 (summer)</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IN REVIEWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FISH TAGGED EACH YEAR IT MAY OCCUR TO THE READER THAT 1957 FIGURES ARE THE SMALLEST AND THEREFORE TEND TO SHOW A POSSIBLE DECLINE IN TOGUE POPULATION. ACTUALLY THIS FIGURE CAN BE INCREASED TO 466 BY ADDING 149 FISH THAT WERE TRANSFERRED TO PLEASANT LAKE, CASCO, TO DETERMINE IF THE REASON FOR SLOW GROWTH OF THOMPSON LAKE TOGUE IS GENERIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL. TWELVE TAG-RETURN FISH CAN BE ADDED TO THIS NUMBER, BRINGING THE TOTAL TO 478 FISH CAPTURED IN 1957.

SKIN DIVING AND SCUBA (SELF-CONTAINED UNDER-WATER BREATHING APPARATUS) ARE BEING USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS PROJECT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION WHICH OTHERWISE MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN BY USUAL METHODS. FOR INSTANCE, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THIS TECHNIQUE THAT LAKE TROUT IN THOMPSON LAKE DO NOT SPAWN IN WATER DEPTHS OVER TWO FEET EVEN THOUGH SUITABLE AREA EXISTS. THIS INFORMATION WILL ADD GREATLY TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF WATER-LEVEL CONTROL, IN LAKES HARBORING LAKE TROUT POPULATIONS.

SHORT NOTES PERTAINING TO THE PROGRESS OF THIS PROJECT MAY APPEAR FROM TIME TO TIME IN THIS PUBLICATION. A FORMAL WRITE UP OF THE RESULTS WILL BE PREPARED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PROJECT BY STUART DEROCHE, FISHERY BIOLOGIST, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

A STATE SUPREME COURT DECISION — RULING IN FAVOR OF THE PUBLIC — HAS ENDED A TWO-YEAR BATTLE OVER ACCESS TO DIAMOND LAKE IN CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN. THE DECISION, HANDED DOWN BY THE HIGH COURT AT LANSING REAFFIRMED THE PRINCIPLE THAT A PUBLIC ROAD TERMINATING AT A NAVIGABLE BODY OF WATER PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCESS TO THAT WATER.


THE SUPREME COURT OPINION RESTATE THE LONG-STANDING PRINCIPLE: "WHERE A PUBLIC HIGHWAY, SUCH AS THIS ONE, ENDS AT A NAVIGABLE BODY OF WATER, PUBLIC ACCESS TO SAID BODY IS PROVIDED." IN THE DIAMOND LAKE CASE, CARA AVENUE HAD BEEN USED BY THE PUBLIC SINCE BEFORE 1900 FOR ACCESS TO THE LAKE. ON THIS BASIS, THE STREET WAS CONSIDERED A "PUBLIC HIGHWAY."

CONSERVATION NEWS, JANUARY 1, 1958
NEWS FROM THE GAME DIVISION

GAME BIOLOGISTS IN WINTER

Winter in Maine can be long and cold. While the average game biologist may be able to grab an extra hour or two of sleep, winter is still a busy season.

In one respect the work of the regional game biologist has undergone a recent change. Until last winter there was always the task of locating and cruising deer yards throughout his region. Now that the big job of yard inventory has been pretty well completed, Chet Banasiak, the deer research leader has a new approach: getting information on trends in deer yard conditions.

In getting at this problem, eight watersheds have been selected in the deer yarding areas of Maine. In each of these sample watersheds, the first problem is a complete mapping of all deer yards. This work was to have started last year, but the snow was not deep enough to force deer into normal yarding activity. We'll try again this year if there is enough snow. As this is written it would appear that once again regional biologists and warden pilots will be out in planes and on snowshoes, tackling this new phase of deer yard research.

In addition to his "trend study watersheds," each regional biologist, where deer have a tendency to yard, has a "study yard" which he visits periodically each winter. He measures snow depths, notes patterns of deer activity, whether or not they are confined to trails, extent of deer travel, and number of deer using the yard. From these yearly observations game officials obtain a good picture of the winter and its effect on the deer herd.

Just to keep the regional game biologist from having idle time on his hands, he also studies deer-bobcat relationships. Game officials need to know more of the role of the bobcat as a deer predator. Under suitable tracking conditions, bobcat trails are followed to get detailed information on feeding patterns. Known deer kills are also looked into, to determine if they have been caused by bobcats.

Other than for the time spent on deer and waterfowl, the regional game biologist is primarily a wildlife manager. The Pittman-Robertson Projects dealing with work on state-owned
MANAGEMENT AREAS, OR MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND TAKES UP MUCH OF THE REMAINDER OF HIS TIME. WINTER WORK IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SMALL MARSH PROGRAM. DURING THE PAST SUMMER AND FALL, TWO CREWS COMPLETED FIELD SURVEYS ON APPROXIMATELY 40 MARSH SITES. NOW MUST COME THE JOB OF PLOTTING THOSE SURVEYS AND DESIGNING DAMS WITH WHICH TO FLOOD THE MARSHES. IF MARSHES ARE TO BE BUILT AT A RECORD RATE NEXT SUMMER THESE SURVEYS MUST BE COMPLETED DURING THE PRESENT WINTER MONTHS.

ELSEWHERE, IN WATERFOWL WORK, JANUARY IS THE MONTH FOR THE MID-WINTER WATERFOWL COUNT. SINCE DUCKS OR GEESE WINTER IN THE UNITED STATES, STATE AND FEDERAL MEN NEED A COORDINATED COUNT OF THEIR MEMBERS. HERE IN MAINE, SKIP SPENCER, WATERFOWL RESEARCH LEADER, AND ED BAKER, U. S. GAME MANAGEMENT AGENT, GET TOGETHER FOR A COUNT OF WATERFOWL ALONG COASTAL WATERS. THIS YEAR'S COUNT WAS COMPLETED THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY.

A SHOT RANG OUT; A DEER FELL TO THE GROUND. A HUNTER STRODE UP AND, AS HE PREPARED THE DEER FOR REMOVAL FROM THE WOODS, HE BEMOANED THE FACT THAT IT WAS SUCH A SMALL ONE — WEIGHING ABOUT 75 POUNDS.

AT THIS POINT A SECOND HUNTER APPEARED ON THE SCENE. THE YOUNGER MAN LISTENED TO THE DISAPPOINTED HUNTER CURSING HIS LUCK AND SUDDENLY, EAGERLY, HE OFFERED: "IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, I'LL TAKE IT! THERE'S A BIG ONE RUNNING AROUND IN THERE, I'VE SEEN HIM!"

"NO", SAID THE FIRST HUNTER, "YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THAT."

"SURE I DO", REPLIED THE SECOND HUNTER. "I'LL TAG THIS ONE AND YOU CAN GO AFTER THE BIG ONE."

AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES OF BANTERING BACK AND FORTH THE MAN WITH THE DEER SAID, "I DON'T THINK YOU WANT TO DO THAT. I'M THE GAME WARDEN IN THIS AREA!"

THE SECOND HUNTER BEAT A VERY HASTY RETREAT WHILE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CONSERVATION OFFICER CHUCKLED AND CONGRATULATED HIMSELF ON DETERRING A VIOLATION OF THE FISH AND GAME LAWS WHILE ON HIS DAY OFF.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT
NEW YORK, THE MINK MARKET HAS SHOWN SURPRISING STRENGTH DURING THE PAST TEN DAYS. AT AN UMPA SALE HELD HERE THIS WEEK THERE WAS AN ALMOST COMPLETE SELL OUT WITH PRICES REPORTED TO BE 30 PER CENT HIGHER THAN FOR THE JANUARY SALE OF LAST YEAR.

SALES FOR THE LAST TEN DAYS HAVE BEEN AS FOLLOWS: (EXcerPTS)

MUSKRATS: EXTRA LARGE, LARGE AND GOOD MEDIUM; MAINE SEASON'S COLLECTIONS, $1.20, N. J., PA., NORTHERN AND GOOD CENTRAL SECTIONS, SEASON'S COLLECTIONS, $1.20 TO $1.15. MEDIUMS AND SMALLS; MAINE, N. J., PA., OHIO, IND., SOUTHERN WISC., SEASON'S COLLECTIONS, 65¢ TO 60¢. FLAT & DAMAGED; N. J., PA., OHIO, IND., SOUTHERN WISC., SEASON'S COLLECTIONS, 50¢ TO 45¢. KITTS AND PART MICE; NORTHERN AND EASTERN SECTIONS, 30¢. ALTHOUGH MANUFACTURERS HERE HAVE SHOWN LESS BUYING INTEREST, SELLING HAS HELD UP WELL AS CANADIANS HAVE FINALLY COME INTO THE MARKET FOR THE BETTER EASTERN AND NORTHERN SECTION LARGE SIZES, WHILE THE EUROPEANS HAVE TAKEN ALL THE INFERIOR GRADES OF THE NORTHERN EASTERN SECTIONS AS WELL AS WESTERN AVERAGE COLLECTIONS.

MINK: WILD; PA., OHIO, IND., WESTERN N. Y., SEASON'S COLLECTIONS ONES, TWOS MALES, $16 TO $17, FEMALES $8 TO $8.50, POOR SMALL MALES, $4. RANCHED; STANDARD DARK, FAIR, AVERAGE SIZES AND QUALITY, MALES $24 TO $25. THE SELLING OF WILD MINK HAS BEEN THE MOST ACTIVE OF ANY WEEK SO FAR THIS YEAR, AS EUROPEANS HAVE BEEN EAGER TO BUY PRACTICALLY ALL TYPES. CANADIANS ARE ALSO DOING SOME BUYING OF THE MEDIUM AND CHEAPER QUALITIES OF WILD MINK.

BEAVER: THE MARKET PRICES ARE NOT YET ESTABLISHED FOR FRESH COLLECTIONS OF THIS ITEM BUT IT IS EXPECTED THAT SELLING WILL SOON START AND THAT PRICES FOR THE BETTER EASTERN DARK TYPES WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 15% UNDER LAST YEAR, WHILE THE WESTERN TYPES WILL BE ABOUT 25% BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES.
AERIAL BEAVER SURVEY REPORT COMPLETED

ROBERT W. BOETTGER HAS SUBMITTED THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE GAME DIVISION'S AERIAL BEAVER SURVEY FOR 1956-1957. THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE WARDEN DIVISION IN SUPPLYING PILOTS AND AIRPLANES, WITH VARIOUS BIOLOGISTS AS OBSERVERS. BOB'S ABSTRACT, IN PART, IS AS FOLLOWS:

THE FOURTH ANNUAL AERIAL BEAVER HOUSE COUNT, BASED ON CENSUS AREA SELECTED IN 1952, INCLUDED 13.9 PER CENT COVERAGE OF THE STATE'S STREAM MILEAGE. AN AVERAGE OF 0.17 HOUSES PER MILE WAS FOUND, FROM WHICH A STATE-WIDE POPULATION OF 21,000 BEAVER WAS COMPUTED. THIS IS A REDUCTION OF 15,800. POSSIBLE REASONS GIVEN FOR THIS SHARP REDUCTION ARE INCREASED TRAPPING PRESSURE; UNKNOWN MORTALITY FACTORS; CHANGES IN POPULATION DYNAMICS; OR A COMBINATION OF THESE.

THIS BUSINESS OF P-R REPORTS

THE GAME DIVISION CAN WELL IMAGINE THE CONFUSION AMONG PERSONNEL OF OTHER DIVISIONS OVER THE ARRAY OF PROJECT NAMES AND NUMBERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PITTMAN-ROBERTSON PROGRAM. THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT.

WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS, ALL WORK OF THE GAME DIVISION MUST FOLLOW APPROVED SPECIFICATIONS SO THAT WE CAN GET 75 PER CENT REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE. IN DOING SO WE MUST FIRST SUBMIT A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATED COSTS. WITHIN CERTAIN CATEGORIES OR SCOPES OF WORK, THESE PLANS BECOME PROJECTS AND ARE APPROVED AS SUCH. ONCE A PROJECT IS BEGUN, CONTINUED WORK OF THE SAME SCOPE FROM YEAR TO YEAR BECOMES A MATTER OF EXTENDING THE PROJECT BY FISCAL YEARS.

FEDERAL AID IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME IS TWO-FOLD; TO FISHERIES UNDER THE DINGELL-JOHNSON ACT AND TO WILDLIFE UNDER PITTMAN-ROBERTSON (P-R). HERE WE ARE CONCERNS WITH ONLY THE LATTER.
P-R PROJECTS ARE DIVIDED INTO PRIMARY FUNCTIONS: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE, ACQUISITION AND COORDINATION. ONCE PROJECT PLANS FOR A NEW PIECE OF WORK ARE SUBMITTED AND APPROVED, THE PROJECT IS CLASSIFIED INTO ACTIVITY AND GIVEN A NUMBER. LETTERS ARE USED TO DESIGNATE TYPES OF PROJECTS: R FOR RESEARCH, D FOR DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE, L FOR LAND ACQUISITION AND C FOR COORDINATION. NUMBERS ARE OF TWO KINDS, ONE FOR THE NUMERICAL SEQUENCE OF THE PROJECT, THE OTHER FOR THE YEAR OF ITS OPERATION.

TWELVE YEARS AGO WE SUBMITTED THE STATE'S FIRST COORDINATION PROJECT. THIS IN TURN WAS THE ELEVENTH P-R PROJECT TO HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR MAINE. HENCE THIS YEAR WE ARE WORKING ON PROJECT W-11-C-12 (W IS FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS, F IS FOR FISHERIES).

LET US BRIEFLY REVIEW OUR CURRENT P-R PROJECTS IN AN EFFORT TO CLEAR UP THE CONFUSION:

PROJECT No. W-11-C-12 COORDINATION. THIS IS MERELY AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROJECT DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR OPERATION OF THE AUGUSTA OFFICE OF THE DIVISION. IT COVERS, IN ADDITION TO COST OF SUPPLIES AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT, THE SALARIES OF TWO STENOGRAPHERS, THE ASSISTANT CHIEF AND CHIEF OF THE GAME DIVISION.


PROJECT No. W-46-D-4 DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS ON STATE-OWNED AREAS. DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE WORK ON ANY STATE-OWNED GAME MANAGEMENT AREA GOES UNDER THIS PROJECT.

PROJECT No. W-47-D-4 STATE-WIDE WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT. ANY DEVELOPMENT OR MAINTENANCE OF WILDLIFE WORK ON PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND IS INCLUDED HERE. THIS IS THE WORK DESCRIBED IN THE JANUARY ISSUE.

PROJECT No. W-48-R-2 INTRODUCTION OF SHARP-TAILED GROUSE. EXPERIMENTAL EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE THIS GAME BIRD TO MAINE ARE COVERED BY THIS PROJECT.

PROJECT No. W-49-L-1 PURCHASE OF BROWNFIELD BOG. PURCHASE HAS BEEN COMPLETED. DEVELOPMENT WILL NOW TAKE OVER UNDER PROJECT No. 46-D.

PROJECT No. W-50-L-1 PURCHASE OF FAHI POND. PURCHASE HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND A DAM HAS BEEN BUILT. THE LATTER WAS UNDER PROJECT No. 46-D.
Expensive Bird

Early on the morning of January 5, Dan Aiken, Lincoln, and Myron Smart, Milo, were "dive bombed" while driving to Montreal.

Dan Aiken had picked up Smart at Milo at 0615 A.M. and was driving toward Orono when the incident took place. It was just breaking day over the horseback in Alton when the two game biologists were "shook" to their boot tops as the windshield on the car seemed to "explode" with a sharp report. Immediately the inside of the car was filled with flying bits of glass and a dark snowstorm of what turned out to be feathers.

When it became apparent that the first thought of a high powered bullet was wrong, the two investigated and found that the "bullet" was a Partridge with a yen for high speeds and an apparent dislike for either Ford cars, biologists, or both.

The results were: No injuries (except to the grouse)
$95 repair bill for a new windshield
New respect for power of a Partridge
AT THE GAME FARM

1958 SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS BEGIN

Requests are coming in for use of Game Farm animals and birds at Sportsmen's Shows, scheduled this winter and spring in Maine. Dates assigned already are Bangor, March 19, 20, 21; Belfast, March 28, 29, and 30, and Dexter, April 11 and 12.

Last year the Wildlife Exhibit was loaned to 13 different organizations for Sportsmen's Shows, Field Days, Fairs, and one Broiler Festival.

Interest in the Wildlife Exhibit has made it necessary to establish the policy that sponsors of these events shall pay all costs of transportation by Game Farm personnel, or else provide transportation of the exhibit through their own resources.

Currently wildlife at the Game Farm includes a dozen deer, two bear cubs, two bobcats, two raccoon, a fox, a raven, an owl, several species of exotic pheasants, and, of course, some two thousand ringnecks.

FAIRS AND SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS THAT DISPLAY THE WILDLIFE EXHIBIT IN 1957

Bangor Sportsmen's Show
Waterville Sportsmen's Show
Augusta-Manchester Lions Club
Portland Sportsmen's Show
Waldo County Sportsmen's Show
Dexter Sportsmen's Show
Jay Boosters Sportsmen's Show, Chisholm
Broiler Day, Belfast
Sportsmen's Show, Ellsworth
Mount Abram Fish and Game Club
Bangor Fair
Skowhegan Fair
Machias Fair
MANAGER NURSES WILDLIFE AT FARM

JOHN BENTLEY, Game Farm manager, has his hands full at the Farm caring for the wildlife. He has two bobcats which he is nursing along. So far they are doing fine. Bobcats are difficult to raise from babies because they have a tendency to contract distemper unless inoculated. Bentley is keeping his fingers crossed.

The manager still is watching closely a pair of hen partridges and one male. He raised them from day-old chicks. A motorist brought in five last spring after seeing the mother killed. Usually partridges do not survive in captivity. Bentley managed to get the chicks to eat by putting them with a baby pheasant. The birds are nearly a year old now and comparatively tame. The personnel at the Game Farm hopes to get some eggs from them this spring, and then hatch and raise them. As far as the manager is able to determine, this has never been done with any success before.

There are a number of deer at the Game Farm that will be released at several places in the State including the Frye Mountain Game Management Area. The University of Maine black bear mascot is back at the Game Farm. This frisky fellow is getting bigger all the time.

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MICHIGAN GAME BIOLOGISTS HAVE PROVED SOMETHING WITH WHICH MANY UNSUCCESSFUL HUNTERS WILL AGREE — WHITE-TAIL DEER ARE HARD TO HUNT, EVEN WHEN THEY ARE PLENTIFUL. THE RESULTS OF THE TESTS WERE GIVEN BY THE MICHIGAN GAME MEN AT THE MIDWEST WILDLIFE CONFERENCE.

TO MAKE THE DEER-HUNTING TESTS, THE MICHIGAN BIOLOGISTS ENCLOSED A SQUARE MILE OF FOREST WITH DEER-PROOF FENCE, STOCKED THE ENCLOSURE WITH 34 DEER, THEN BROUGHT IN SEVEN AVERAGE HUNTERS. THE RESULT:

HUNTERS NEEDED AN AVERAGE OF 14 HOURS TO GET A DEER WHEN ALLOWED TO SHOOT ANY DEER THEY SAW. WHEN THEY HUNTED ONLY ADULT BUCKS, THE HUNTERS NEEDED MUCH MORE TIME — AN AVERAGE OF 51 HOURS. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY LEADER, HUNTERS WERE ABLE TO SHOOT ONLY ABOUT 2 PER CENT OF THE AVAILABLE DEER DURING AN 8-HOUR HUNTING DAY. DEER DRIVES WERE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL, BUT AT THAT, 20 PER CENT OF THE DRIVES FAILED TO FLUSH THE SLY BUCKS.

HUNTING CONDITIONS DURING THE TEST WERE VERY FAVORABLE. BESIDES HAVING THE DEER FENCED IN A SQUARE MILE, THE HUNTERS HAD SNOW AND MORE DRIVERS THAN USUAL.

MISSOURI CONSERVATION COMMISSION
ENGINEERING DIVISION

Work still continues on the Enfield Hatchery project. During the latter part of December and the first part of January, the site was cleared under the supervision of Ray Lemelin, construction foreman.

There will be four single family dwellings built at this station to house the hatchery personnel. Two of these dwellings will be similar to those built last summer at the Dry Mills Hatchery and at the Palermo Rearing Station.

These dwellings are 1 1/2-story, Cape Cod style homes. The overall dimensions of the two similar to last year's models are 28 feet by 32 feet. The exterior is green asbestos siding with white trim and a black asphalt shingle roof. The floor plan consists of four rooms, a kitchen, living room, and two bed rooms, and bath downstairs and the upstairs unfinished. Provision was made to supply heat to the upstairs, for use when this area is finished.

The other two dwellings are the same style, the exteriors the same, the overall dimensions are 27 feet by 30 feet. The floor plan includes three rooms, a kitchen, living room, and one bed room, and bath downstairs, with two bedrooms finished upstairs.

All four of the houses will have an automatic baseboard hot water heating system, which will also supply the domestic hot water.

Alterations to the Federal Street Warehouse to provide a regional office for the Game Division field men have been completed.

Work has been started by the construction foreman on a gate for the upper dam on the Pennamaquan River in Pembroke.

Several potential marsh sites were investigated by division personnel to determine the feasibility of the construction of water-control structures.

Included in the investigation were the Sandy Point Marsh, Hodgedon Marsh, Salmon Stream Flowage, Vassalboro Marsh, and Gray Beaver Flowage.
AT SANDY POINT, THERE IS AN EXISTING EARTH-FILL DAM WITH A CONCRETE SLUICEWAY AND CAST-IRON CULVERT, BOTH FORMERLY USED FOR WATER-CONTROL PURPOSES. TENTATIVE PLANS CALL FOR A NEW DAM WITH AN AUTOMATIC GATE TO STABILIZE THE WATER LEVEL IN THE MARSH.

HODGEDON MARSH DAM IS AN ANCIENT LOG-CRIB TYPE STRUCTURE WHICH HAS ROTTED OUT IN THE CENTER AND IS UNCONTROLLABLY PASSING WATER FROM THE PROPOSED MARSH. AT THE PRESENT TIME, A NEW LOG-CRIB STRUCTURE IS CONTEMPLATED BUT IF SUFFICIENT MARSH AREA MAY BE CREATED, A MORE EXPENSIVE CONCRETE STRUCTURE CAN BE BUILT.

SALMON STREAM FLOWAGE WAS CONTROLLED BY A LOG-CRIB TYPE DAM WHICH HAS BEEN COMPLETELY WASHED OUT. DUE TO THE INACCESSIBILITY OF THE SITE, A NEW CRIB-TYPE OR EARTH FILL DAM IS THE TYPE MOST LIKELY TO BE BUILT.

VASSALBORO MARSH AND GRAY BEAVER AREA ARE BOTH BEING SURVEYED AT THE PRESENT TIME. BOTH AREAS CONTAIN EARTH-FILL TYPE OBSTRUCTIONS WHICH MAY BE UTILIZED FOR IMPOUNDMENT PURPOSES. SUITABLE WATER CONTROL STRUCTURES WILL BE DESIGNED BY THE ENGINEERING DIVISION.

SITES INCLUDED UNDER THE SMALL MARSH PROGRAM ARE BEING INVESTIGATED AND DESIGNS BEING READIED FOR SUMMER CONSTRUCTION.

A SHOOTER WAS ARRESTED IN DAMARISCOTTA AND CHARGED WITH "MORE OFFENSES THAN I HAVE EVER SEEN AGAINST ONE MAN," ACCORDING TO THE JUDGE.

HE WAS CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION OF A DEER THAT WAS NOT REGISTERED AND HAD BEEN SHOT BY A HUNTER WITHOUT A HUNTING LICENSE, FOLLOWING WHICH THE HUNTER SOLD A PART OF THE DEER WITHOUT MAKING A REPORT. HE ALSO HID THE BODY OF ONE DEER. THE LICENSELESS HUNTER ALSO HAD NO DRIVER'S LICENSE AND WAS DRIVING AN IMPROPERLY REGISTERED CAR.

LEWISTON EVENING JOURNAL, NOV. 5, 1957
MAKING THE ROUNDS WITH THE WARDENS

DIVISION A

BEAVER ARE PLENTIFUL IN DIVISION A ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM WARDENS GILPATRICK, COCHRAN, AND BRIGGS. HOWEVER, LITTLE INTEREST IN TRAPPING BEAVER WAS BEING SHOWN. THE MAIN REASONS FOR THE LACK OF INTEREST WERE THE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND LOW PRICES OFFERED FOR THE PELTS.

WARDEN SUPERVISOR MARSH HAS RECEIVED VARYING REPORTS ON THE NUMBER OF RABBITS IN HIS AREA. COCHRAN REPORTS A LOT OF RABBIT HUNTING BEING DONE BUT FEW RABBITS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WARDEN GILPATRICK REPORTS THAT RABBITS ARE QUITE PLentiful IN HIS TERRITORY.

MOST WARDENS HAVE SEEN LARGE NUMBERS OF DEER IN DIVISION A. THEY ARE STILL ROAMING AND HAVE NOT YARDED UP YET. SOME ARE STILL FEEDING IN THE ORCHARDS. DOG COMPLAINTS ARE GROWING. A DEER BEING CHASED BY DOGS JUMPED FROM THE FLAGPOND ROAD OVERPASS IN SACO DOWN ON THE MAINE TURNPIKE KILLING THE DEER.

SEBAGO LAKE HAS COME UP ABOUT TWO FEET SINCE REACHING ITS LOWEST LEVEL EARLY IN NOVEMBER.

On Saturday, January 18, the Central Maine Power Company was notified of a power failure at Sebago Lake Station. Upon investigating, linemen found a fisher had climbed a pole and crossed two wires blowing a transformer. The fisher was electrocuted. The animal was turned over to wardens.

DIVISION B

THE RAINS HAVE FILLED UP THE SWAMPS, STREAMS AND Ponds of THIS DIVISION. ICE FISHING THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JANUARY WAS REPORTED SLOW WITH ONLY SMALL CATCHES OF PICKEREL RECORDED.

DOG TROUBLES HAVE INCREASED ALL OVER THE AREA, ACCORDING TO SUPERVISOR GRAY. CHARLES TUTTLE REPORTS THAT HE HAS FOUND SEVERAL DEER RECENTLY KILLED BY DOGS IN THE LITCHFIELD AREA. WALTER HARRIS, PHILIP MAHANEY AND OLIN JACKSON ALL HAVE HAD A RASH OF RECENT DOG TROUBLE. JACKSON MENTIONED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS OF STRAY DOGS, BOTH HOUNDS AND BEAGLES, RECEIVED FROM FARMERS AND OTHER RESIDENTS. RECENT RAINS MADE A GOOD CRUST FOR THE DOGS TO RUN ON.
Rabbit hunting has been slow even though in most cases there have been plenty of rabbits. At the beginning of the month little snow was on the ground, then too much, then the snow became too crusty.

Warden Supervisor Gray received several calls about a lone Canada goose, that was apparently unable to fly, in the Kennebec River at Randolph. For a few days they were unable to get the bird because of shell ice and partly open water.

Division B had two night hunting cases in court which wardens had been working on for several weeks. The case was lost because of insufficient evidence. Gray was not able to tie in a gun that was found with the case. However, there was some consolation in the fact that one of the men was convicted for failure to stop and for reckless driving.

Partridge are showing very well all over the division. There have been quite a few reports of pheasants being seen. Supervisor Gray and Olin Jackson saw a bunch of pheasant one day recently in the Winslow area.

Warden Winfield Gordon and Gray checked a group of rabbit hunters at St. George recently and they reported finding plenty of cottontail or "coonie" rabbits in the Thomaston-Rockland area. This is the first report that these rabbits are on the east side of the Kennebec River.

Winfield Gordon reports having at least a dozen deer hit and killed since the end of the hunting season with several more hit and able to go off on their own power. There have been several hit and killed by cars and trucks in the Bowdoinham section.

Division C

Warden Supervisor Rogers reports that the only sportsmen having any success in his division are the rabbit hunters. Warden Stanley Richardson of Plymouth noted that rabbit hunters are having a hey-day in his district. Parties of eight and ten men have been getting their limit. On the fresh snow, he cruised through Dixmont and Newburg and every patch of woods was covered with rabbit tracks. He said that he had never seen rabbits more plentiful in that area. The fox was conspicuous by its absence.

Warden Louis Chute of Anson has seen some beaver dams and seed beds washed out forcing the beaver to move. With these conditions and with a poor market, trappers are having a hard season. Ice conditions were unsafe the most of the month. Warden Basil Closson of Winterport has made the same observations. He checked a trapper with a day's catch of two otter and one 80-inch beaver.
ICE FISHING HAS BEEN ON AND OFF IN DIVISION C. THE HEAVY RAINS OPENED UP MOST OF THE PONDS. WARDEN ORAL PAGE OF BELGRADE REMEMBERS WATCHING A FISHERMAN AT SALMON LAKE CATCH A BROWN TROUT OF ABOUT THREE POUNDS AND RELEASE IT UNHARMED. HE ALSO REPORTED SOME WHITE PERCH BEING CAUGHT AT EAST AND NORTH PONDS.

LIVE BAIT HAS BEEN SCARCE IN WARDEN RICHARDSON'S DISTRICT. THE NEWPORT DEALERS WHO ALWAYS HAVE PLENTY HAVE NONE. MERT NASON OF NEWPORT WHO HAS BEEN IN THE BAIT BUSINESS FOR YEARS REPORTS BEING OUT OF BUSINESS BECAUSE HE COULD NOT GET BAIT. RICHARDSON BELIEVES THIS WAS DUE TO THE EXTREME LOW WATER DURING THE FALL AND EARLY WINTER.

WARDEN HAROLD TUKEY OF BELGRADE LAKES HAD ONE DEER KILLED BY BOBCATS IN VIENNA. WARDEN MILTON SCRIBNER OF UNITY HAS HEARD OF A NUMBER OF PHEASANT SHOWING UP AROUND THE FARM BUILDINGS IN HIS TERRITORY. WARDEN CHUTE OF ANSON HAS SEEN MORE BOBCAT SIGNS THIS WINTER THAN FOR MANY PREVIOUS ONES. FOX ARE SCARCE AND MANGY.

DIVISION D

FIELD ACTIVITIES IN THE DIVISION WERE CURTAILED BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY RAINS AND WARM WEATHER. HOWEVER, THE WARDENS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CHECK CAMPS CLOSELY.

THERE ARE VERY FEW BEAVER TRAPPERS IN THE FIELD, ACCORDING TO SUPERVISOR BROWN. SEVERAL FELLOWS TOLD HIM THAT THE PRICE IS TOO LOW EVEN TO PAY EXPENSES.

PICKEREL FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN GETTING PLENTY OF FOOT WORK ON INDIAN POND AND WEYMOUTH POND IN WARDEN MOSSEY'S TERRITORY. ONE PROUD FISHERMAN, AGE 12 YEARS, HAD THREE PICKEREL, EACH WEIGHING BETTER THAN 3½ POUNDS.

WARDEN TUKEY TELLS OF THE FARMER FROM MILO WHO UPON ANSWERING A DISTRESS CALL FROM HIS POULTRY PENS, FOUND A SMALL BOBCAT WRESTLING WITH A BIG GRAY GOOSE. THE MAN FIRST CLUBBED THE CAT AWAY AND RAN TO GET A GUN. UPON HIS RETURN THE CAT WAS AGAIN GIVING THE GOOSE A HARD TIME. TUKEY SIGNED THE BOUNTY CLAIM WHICH MADE THE FARMER FEEL MUCH BETTER.

THE LOCAL COP IN DOVER MISSED SOME OF THE STRAWS FROM HIS CELLAR BROOM. ON THE SECOND DAY ALL WERE GONE. CLOSE INVESTIGATION REVEALED A NEW MUSKRAT HOUSE GOING UP IN HIS CELLAR. HIS ONLY QUESTION WAS, "HOW DID THAT MUSKRAT GET INTO MY CELLAR? I DON'T HAVE ANY OUTSIDE DRAIN."
The last few days of the Coot, Eider and Old Squaw duck season were exceptionally good. The weather was unusually warm so the hunters did not have to suffer with the cold. The ducks were plentiful giving the hunters some fast shooting to end the season. On the coast most of the ducks arrive in December. The last few days of the month, there were all species in large numbers. Morse said that he had never seen so many Blue Bills as were on the coast the last few days, but the season had closed on them December 12.
RABBIT HUNTERS CONTINUE TO SHOOT THEIR LIMITS OF RABBITS WITH AND WITHOUT RABBIT HOUNDS. NEAR THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY ONE PARTY OF SIX HUNTERS SHOT 22 ANIMALS.

SUPERVISOR MORSE FOUND 14 RABBIT HUNTERS IN FOUR DIFFERENT PARTIES, ALL HUNTING IN A PATCH OF WOODS NOT OVER THREE MILES SQUARE, IN LAMOINE. THEY HAD EIGHT BEAGLES IN ONE PARTY AND TWO EACH IN THE OTHER THREE, MAKING A TOTAL OF 14 BEAGLES. IN ALL HIS YEARS' EXPERIENCE AS A GAME WARDEN, MORSE HAS NEVER HEARD SUCH A "RACKET", 14 DOGS ALL BARKING AND 14 HUNTERS ALL SHOOTING. THE SHOOTING SOUNDED ALMOST LIKE THE OPENING DAY ON MERRymeeting Bay. AT DARK, HALF OF THE DOGS WERE STILL RUNNING AND THEIR OWNERS WERE TRYING TO RUN THEM DOWN. THEY WOULD SHOUT, THEN SHOOT THEIR GUNS TO CALL THE DOGS. IT WAS AFTER TEN O'CLOCK WHEN THE LAST TWO BEAGLES WERE IN THE POSSESSION OF THEIR OWNERS.
Warden Raymond Harrington, Deblois, found some illegal beaver traps set in a flowage in Township 24. He and Warden Folsom watched these traps for three days in near zero weather, with the wind blowing across the barren section before the trappers arrived to tend their traps. They had traps on a beaver house, beaver dam, no names on the traps and only one license between three trappers.

Warden Dave Mercier of Orrington, had two unusual experiences recently. First he investigated a complaint of a sick, half-starved raccoon picked up near Brewer Lake. This raccoon had a collar with an iron ring, around its neck. The coon had outgrown its collar and was unable to swallow. Apparently it had escaped from someone who kept it on a leash.

Second, while patrolling his district in the Mann Hill area of Holden, Warden Mercier came upon the tracks of a man going into the woods. He followed these tracks about a hundred feet and found a fairly good-sized dog tied to a tree. The dog had been there for some time but was still alive. The rope was very short, so that the dog did not have a chance to struggle free. Its hind legs appeared to be frozen so Warden Mercier put the dog out of its misery.

Warden Edwin Wuori of Amherst reports that four fishermen driving to a pond off the Air Line Road saw a Great Horned Owl feeding on a bird which they believed to be a partridge. They stopped their car and shot the owl. When they investigated, they were very surprised to discover that the owl was feeding on another Great Horned Owl which was freshly killed. All evidence indicated that this owl was killed by the owl that was feeding on it.

Warden Don Cote, Bar Harbor, was called to Eagle Lake, where two deer were down on the ice out in the middle of the lake. The ice was so smooth that they could not get back on their feet. Cote put a rope around the larger deer, an adult doe, and towed it to shore. The other was a lamb which he could pick up in his arms and carry to shore. Both of these deer had beat themselves up quite a bit in trying to get to their feet. But after being on land and walking around, they both seemed in good condition.

Division F

Lloyd Clark, Supervisor

The beaver season started out with open water but it is improving. Near the first of January there was excellent traveling on flowages and trappers took advantage of it. Wardens in Division F are making a complete survey of the beaver population. Only one trapper is flying the back country. Some Canadian buyers have purchased licenses and are attempting to get beaver in the Division.
DIVISION G

DAVID PRIEST, SUPERVISOR

The rains near the end of December and through January raised water in all streams in Division G to a near flood pitch. Wardens in the area logged a total of 91 water miles for the month of December. It isn't often they get that much boating in the middle of the winter, says Supervisor David Priest.

The rabbit hunters were active especially when the ground was bare. Priest says it is amazing the number of hunters who are hunting rabbits this winter with 30-30s and 30-06s. No doubt the bunnies are more ferocious on bare ground!

Many persons are trapping beaver this winter in Division G. Many of them have taken up trapping after being laid off their jobs according to the Warden Supervisor. At least six outfits are using air planes for trapping.

Warden Sherwood Howes has noticed fewer moose wintering in Baxter State Park this year. Warden Robert Thomas reports cars driving on Mattanawcook Lake in Lincoln. No accidents yet, although there was only six inches of ice by January 19.

An interesting incident took place near Millinocket the first of the month. Norman Patchell decided to go rabbit hunting. He left his eleven-year-old son Paul and three-year-old daughter Donna in the car at about noon. He soon became lost. At about 4 p.m. the children became alarmed and cold so Paul decided they should tell somebody. He had never driven a car before but by going very slowly, he managed to drive the six miles home over the busy highway between East Millinocket and Millinocket. When he got home he didn't know how to stop the car so he ran it into a trash barrel and then into the side of the house! Warden Cyr was notified and he located Mr. Patchell in the woods at 9 p.m.

At last report Chesuncook Lake was only 14 feet from a full head of water.

DIVISION H

WILFRED ATKINS, SUPERVISOR

Activity in Division H has been varied during the month of January. The wardens have noted a big increase in the number of beaver trappers this year. Beaver were reported plentiful over most of the area. Ice conditions on most beaver ponds have been treacherous and trappers are having difficulty finding favorable locations to place their sets. Despite the apparently large number of beaver, few have been presented for tagging.
Warden Burnham of Bridgewater reports that pheasants are being noticed in fairly good numbers since the close of the hunting season. With the coming of the heavy snow they began to congregate near the farm buildings and highways.

Warden Bellatty of Mapleton noted that fishermen were using boats from the shore to reach their fishing shacks on the ice at Squa Pan Lake. Some shacks have been lost, due to weak ice conditions.

Signs of moose have been seen throughout the Division. Warden William Atkins saw four at the edge of a field in Buffalo, three in pulp cuttings near a camp on Beaver Brook, and two more along Fish River near the mouth of Mosquito Brook. Warden Burnham of Bridgewater has seen a moose, which appears to be sickly, remaining close to the built-up section of the town.

Trapper Robert Helstrom of Washburn noticed several cat tracks and at least two lynx tracks near Madawaska Stream at T 15, R 5. This is the same section that Warden Jack Shaw noticed lynx tracks last year.

Woods operations have been picking up. For a while the logging roads were impassable. Even now the new roads are not frozen. The operators realize they have only two months to get their pulp and lumber out so they are speeding up work.

Near the first of the month, Warden Grant of Houlton reported quite a bit of smelt fishing activity at Pleasant Lake, near Island Falls. Fishermen were having good success; however, many were skeptical of the thin ice conditions — about six inches at that time.

Warden Harvard Bellatty of Mapleton in Division H has accepted a transfer to the Franklin District in Division E, in Hancock County.

Fishermen trying to get their smelt house on Squa Pan Lake encountered a bit of trouble. Their truck went through the ice, which had been weakened by the warm weather and rain. The fishermen finally got the truck removed, but the story didn't end there. Early the same evening after dark, Buddy Daggett of Washburn started out across the ice on foot to his smelt house. Unaware of the hole left by the truck, he fell in the water which came up to his neck. He had no way of knowing the hole was there as it had not been blocked off nor marked.

Near the end of January, beaver trappers were more successful. One of the trappers, Sterling Cook of Mapleton, sold 15 pelts and stated that he got a better price than last year. Warden Caron stated he had more trappers in his district than he has ever had.
DIVISION 1

Curtis Cooper, Supervisor

Water troubles are taking much of the attention in Division I. The ice ran in the St. John River, December 21. The entire length was clear December 22, with the exception of a large jam near Madawaska. Considerable damage was caused the Canadian side, according to Warden Leonard Pelletier. Warden Hill reported that recent rains and ice took out the Blanchett Co. bridge, which crossed the St. John River at Priestly Brook, T. 13, R. 14.

Cold weather has just about closed the open water at Long Lake, on the Fish River chain. The lake opened up during the recent thaw. Residents who have lived around the lake for 50 years say it is the first time this has happened.

Most wardens report that deer are plentiful throughout the Division. On January 12, Warden Pilot Varney and Supervisor Cooper observed several deer on the hardwood ridges. Most of them, however, were traveling through old cuttings close to their winter ranges. Varney also saw a bull moose in the Walla-grass lakes area still sporting a fine set of antlers.

Warden Noyes "smelled a violation recently while talking to a Canadian, Felix Saulnier, about the price of a non-resident trapping license. He was sure he could smell beaver on the person's clothes. Noyes made a thorough investigation near the Batch camp in which he was staying, and found one beaver carcass and good evidence of quite a bit of trapping taking place. Results of a good warden nose cost the Canadian over $200."
Noyes reports seeing a great many sable signs at T 10, R 15 in the Ross Lake town, Piscataquis County.

Division J  
Wallace Barron, Supervisor

Smelt fishing remains good at Wyman Lake; it has slowed somewhat at Brassua Lake. A rise in water level at Brassua of nearly 20 feet has apparently slowed the fishing. Moosehead Lake is only about a foot below full capacity. Smelt fishing is also reported good at Little Big Wood and Wyman Lakes. The fish houses at the mouth of Carney Brook make quite a village.

Beaver trappers are encountering difficulty in Division J. Travel is treacherous, the ice is thin and water is high. The trappers also report that beaver are not taking bait very well.

Warden Howe had a martin turned in last week. It was taken in a cat set at Lily Bay. Martin appear to be on the increase in the upper Division, while Fisher show a decrease.

Herb Johnston, dam tender at Seeboomook Dam saw what he thought was a porcupine in back of his house. He got out a gun and shot it. It turned out to be a bear that tipped the scales at 10 1/2 pounds.

Division K  
William Shaw, Supervisor

Little activity has been reported in Division K. Beaver trappers are setting up as usual but Supervisor Shaw does not expect a large take this season. Warden Gray Morrison of Kingfield reports that beaver trapping in his district started very slowly with the season half over south of the Appalachian Trail. There are beaver colonies which are not being trapped.

Warden Charles Tobie of Rangeley reports that in spite of the recent two feet of snow, deer did not yard to any extent. He saw more deer on high ground and near town after the storm than before. Warden Neal Edwards of Oquossoc reports that deer are wandering around a great deal and he has seen several along the roads.

Warden Charles Tobie also has seen quite a few cat tracks and a few Fisher signs. Cats are not being hunted at all or trapped to any extent. There are good chances for out-of-town cat hunters in the South Bog area, Dodge Pond and the Greely Pond area. Tobie has not tagged a cat since last winter.
DIVISION L

HEAVY RAINS AND WARM WEATHER HAVE TAKEN THE ICE FROM MOST OF THE PONDS IN DIVISION L CURTAILING FISHING AND TRAPPING ACTIVITY. DEER ARE MOVING ABOUT THE ORCHARDS; THERE IS LITTLE RABBIT HUNTING AND SOME BOBCATS BEING CERTIFIED FOR BOUNTY. WARDEN JORDAN REPORTS GOOD CATCHES OF PICKEREL AND WHITE PERCH BEING TAKEN ON ANDROSCOGGIN LAKE.

WARDEN WILSON REPORTS BEING CALLED TO NORTHWEST BETHEL NEAR THE END OF DECEMBER TO FIND TWO LARGE BUCK DEER WITH ANTLERS LOCKED TOGETHER. ONE, A TEN-POINT BUCK WEIGHING ABOUT 200 POUNDS WAS DEAD; THE OTHER, A 180-POUND DEER WAS VERY MUCH ALIVE. WILSON STATED HE USED ROPES TO PULL THEM UP TO A TREE AND FREED THE LIVE BUCK BY BREAKING THE ANTLERS OF THE DEAD ONE.

WARDEN ADAMS REMEMBERS SEEING ABOUT 20 BROWN TROUT, WEIGHING FROM THREE TO FIVE POUNDS EACH, ON TWO SPAWNING BEDS AT WORTHLEY POND, PERU, NEAR THE END OF DECEMBER.

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD RICHARD HERRICK OF WEST PARIS, THINKING THERE WAS A PORCUPINE IN A DEN HE FOUND, FIRED ONE SHOT IN. HE CRAWLED IN AND PUT HIS HAND ON WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE A 265-POUND BEAR. AT THE SAME TIME THERE WAS A LOUD GROWL. HERRICK BEAT A HASTY RETREAT AND FIRED TWO MORE SHOTS KILLING THE BEAR.

TO ATTEND SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS---

THE DEPARTMENT IS SENDING TWO WARDEN REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS AT BOSTON AND PHILADELPHIA.

REGINALD MOSSEY, DEXTER, AND WENDELL SYMES, HALLOWELL, WILL ATTEND THE BOSTON SHOW SCHEDULED TO RUN FROM FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 9. CHARLES LOMBARD, CASCO, AND OLIN JACKSON, SOUTH CHINA, WILL REPRESENT THE DEPARTMENT AT PHILADELPHIA FROM FEBRUARY 28 THROUGH MARCH 8.

THESE MEN WERE CHOSEN ON THE BASIS OF YEARS OF SERVICE AND THE FACT THAT NONE OF THEM HAD OFFICIALLY ATTENDED THE SHOW BEFORE. THEY WILL ALTERNATE WITH DEPARTMENT OF SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES WARDENS TO KEEP A MAINE WARDEN ON DUTY AT ALL TIMES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FOR VISITORS TO THE SHOW.
CLARK RETIRES

WARDEN NEWCOMB F. CLARK, FRANKLIN, RECENTLY RETIRED AFTER EIGHT YEARS WITH THE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT.

CLARK HAS PURCHASED A COMBINATION GROCERY AND LUNCHEONETTE BUSINESS IN SULLIVAN AND WILL RUN THE BUSINESS WITH HIS WIFE, GENEVA.

CLARK JOINED THE WARDEN FORCE IN FEBRUARY, 1949, AND HAS SERVED AS DISTRICT WARDEN IN THE FRANKLIN-SULLIVAN AREA OF HANCOCK COUNTY SINCE THAT TIME. HE HAS SEVEN CHILDREN AND PLANS TO RESIDE IN SULLIVAN.

"CLARK WAS AN EXCELLENT WARDEN," SAYS CHIEF WARDEN INGRAHAM, "AND IT WAS WITH RELUCTANCE THAT HIS RESIGNATION WAS ACCEPTED." ACCORDING TO RAYMOND MORSE OF ELLSWORTH, "CLARK WAS A QUIET MAN, WELL LIKED BY THE SPORTSMEN HE CAME IN CONTACT WITH, AND HE COMPILED AN OUTSTANDING RECORD OF SERVICE IN HIS HANCOCK COUNTY DISTRICT."

CLARK'S RESIGNATION BECAME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 18. WARDEN HARVARD BELLATTY, FORMERLY OF MAPLETON, HAS TAKEN OVER DISTRICT 39, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANKLIN, TELEPHONE LO 5-3575.
WATERFOWL FILM ADDED TO FISH AND GAME LIBRARY

Ken Gray's latest movie entitled "Maine Waterfowl Story" has been added to the Department Film Library. In sound and color, the film runs for 27 minutes and outlines the waterfowl research and management work conducted in Maine. Woven into the film are excellent scenes of marsh wildlife. The film closes with some interesting duck hunting sequences photographed by the Kennebec River and Merrymeeting Bay. Three prints are available for circulation within the state.

CHRISTOPHER LAKE CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN NEW PAMPHLET

A new pamphlet describing summer workshops in conservation education at the Freeman-Waterhouse Campus on Christopher Lake is now available. Included with each pamphlet is a registration form for teachers wishing to enroll. Anyone desiring additional information is urged to contact Larry Stuart in the Augusta office.

DEPARTMENT DISPLAY WELL RECEIVED AT MONTREAL

A photo display designed to explain the activities of the Department was set up in the exhibition room at the Northeast Wildlife Conference, Sheraton Mt. Royal Hotel, Montreal. The display attracted a lot of attention. It consisted of six back-lighted color transparencies with 36 black and white photos and captions. In the center of the display were a map of the State showing the location of personnel and Department installations and a panel of Fish and Game publications.
MADISON-SKOWHEGAN CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

One hundred and ten teachers will attend a three-day workshop in Wise Resource Use Education to be held in the Madison-Skowhegan area May 7-9. It is hoped that this "pilot" program, the first in-service workshop of its kind in Maine, will serve as a pattern for many such workshops to be offered throughout the State next year.

In-service workshops in conservation of natural resources are outgrowths of the summer conservation workshops being conducted at Maine's Conservation School at Bryant Pond. Courses at the Freeman-Waterhouse campus there bring college credits to Maine teachers. The program is a joint effort of the University of Maine, Maine Teacher Colleges, and the State Department of Education.

Four half-day sessions will be held covering the subjects of soil, water, forests, fish and wildlife. Commissioner Cobb will be first speaker at the workshop. His topic "Why Conservation?" will cover the broader aspects of the need for resource management. Special emphasis will be placed on trip itineraries to nearby areas planned to emphasize local situations in respect to general problems in resource use.

Conservation officials stress that the philosophy behind emphasis on resource education in Maine is based on the belief that children of school age today will be the citizens in a few years who will be making important decisions concerning management of Maine's natural resources.

LAWRENCE TO LEAVE DEPARTMENT

John Lawrence, an informational representative with the I and E Division, will be leaving the Department May 15. For the past two years he has been handling the press releases and photography for the Division.

Lawrence is planning to study for his doctor's degree at the State University of Iowa, from which he now has a master's degree in English with a major in Journalism.