

See Folder . . . HOW TO CATCH MICHIGAN FISH

MICHIGAN Conservation

MAY-JUNE
1962



Pumpkinseed



Bluegill



Black Crappie



Rock Bass



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass

See Folder . . . HOW TO CATCH MICHIGAN FISH

MICHIGAN Conservation

MAY-JUNE
1952



Rainbow Crappie



Muskellunge



Black Crappie



Rock Bass



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass

New and Current . . .



A growing number of
communities in Michigan
are now beginning
to help their
subset in conservation
work. Campground
improvements, road
trips into remote lakes, new planting
and breeding for wildlife, plenty of
development, and literally scores of other
projects have been and are being em-
ployed, almost every year, to insure
progress possible to communities that
want to build themselves better living.
It is discussed in our lead article this issue.

The program is development of
fish managing methods, research and
reinforcement by the Department's Fish
Division in the last decade. Some great
advances who have seen how it works
will tell their experience in the article,
and point to the program's surprisingly
low cost and high return. For anyone tired
of hearing to neighbors and visitors
complain about poor local living, this
article provides ammunition for both
well-founded argument and genuine
action.



Very deep in the waters of Lake Superior,
mainly commercial fishery, in
purpose, will be a major battle
presently under
way deep in the waters of Lake Superior.
First major announcement is made April
that 10 more species occupying lake lake
Superior will be classified treated this
year to remove sea lamprey spurs. Next,
at its April meeting, the Conservation
Commission voted that to preserve the
lake trout fishery, general commercial
fishing would be halted. One would
suppose that if lamprey poisoning is
taking effect, more fishing—not禁
immediately available, the intent seems
slowly, and lake trout supplies in the
lake have been mostly exhausted by
more years of lamprey depredations. It
is going to take many years to rebuild
the trout fishery, even assuming that

President Kennedy recently sent a
special message to Congress on the
general subject of Natural Resource De-
velopment. This is interesting news to
conservationists nationwide, who have long
planned for broadened federal legis-

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lamprey can be definitely controlled.
Then, the present conditions, and the
Commission reluctantly had to place
several restrictions on northern commercial
fishing, but these rules, all of this and
all of this and fisheries have generally
respected the Commission's actions.



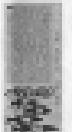
Michigan Week This first issue
May 26-28, and the
thing was brilliant
and fresh and logical.
This is one reason
we are carrying a
copy in this issue
on developing water
power page 14, but also
by short time intervening
article will capture the imagination of
even the least skeptical and most non-
technical readers. The general logic that
indicated might consider water power
water from previous, or one apparently
so far away to reader. Further, it is
highly important to Michigan,
which will be some day, and will be
in plentiful supply for a long time to
come. But the world already has about
25 million gallons of water daily, and
new plants are being built.

A Survey of Outdoor Recreation has
been issued in the U.S. Department of the Interior, with Dr. Edward C. Crook named Director. Crook was
formerly assistant chief of the Forest
Service, and was placed in charge of this new federal agency in Oct. 45, among other things, a nationwide recreation
plan. The plan is also expected to
plan and carry out a program of federal
aid to states regarding recreational
development. Money might come from
funds on federal recreation lands, or a
million, gas tax, or a federal tax on
sales of small boats, or from some other
source, money, depending on present
legislation. Survey and research is the
immediate field over this part of the
new agency's responsibilities. This new
agency was recommended by the Out-
door Recreation Council, which conducted
a survey of U.S. recreation problems.
The ORC, a non-political group com-
posed of leading U.S. Conservationists
and about 20 different federal agencies,
have jointly divided responsibility to

the recreation field and that it was then
to coordinate and perhaps consolidate
these into a more orderly whole.



J. W. Maxwell
was born at New
Wood, Michigan on
October 20, 1878
and died at Dowd Mission, Ionia on Fe-
bruary 18, 1962. During the 44 years
between these two dates, Dowd, Dilling,
Maxwell, wrote, talked, and built a
conservation career as important and im-
pressive as any man could say on this
subject. He was Head of the U.S. Biological Survey for a time in the days of FDR. He designed the first duck
stamp and drew the initial five series
of wildlife stamps that launched the
National Wildlife Federation. He also
enriched the body of his character in
many local conservation efforts across
the nation, including many in Michigan.
But he was best known for his published
and often very much copied portion
of outdoor events and situations.



Two items of interest in
Michigan in this issue are
the special supplement in
the center of this magazine
and the final page, Back
Line, p. 30. The supplement
is aimed at helping the
conservationist in each state
and the final page, Michigan
page of this supplement is available at
most bookstores throughout the state. The
table is a compilation of numbers used
in a comparison of Michigan's Back
Line with that of 1959. It is intended to help
in making comparisons between
other states. There are advances in
equipment, in changing our fishing
methods, Williamson, unknown a few
years ago, is a very heavy breeder of
these species in preference to the usual
baits used, mainly because fish seem
less able to see it. On page 41, on the
other hand, Dowd, and I have shown us
that fishing with spent vodka has been
evidenced by marked of both high and
low rates for a very long time—with
great changes being made in technique,
but little change being made in the
body framework of hook and line fishing.
As the article points out, man still wants to
give the fish some choice of whether he gets him-
self caught or not.



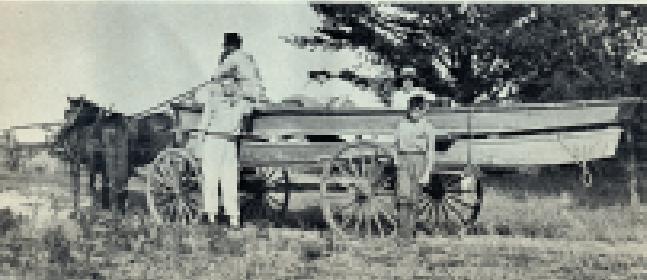


The Ausable

RIVER BOAT

by Russell McKee

First, please note these scenes of the Ausable river boat in use, then we will tell you about this interesting craft. In the upper left corner and at left center are scenes of the boat in use during early days of life on the Ausable. The picture at lower left shows how these boats were carried overland, in this case on their way to an early footstep picnic. At upper right is a modern river boat in use, with the guide in the stern, poling the boat into position. At right center, guide Lassy Stephan shows the extreme buoyancy of these boats. Below are two scenes of one under construction. These boats are basically built of four planks of western cedar. Note



particularly the boat's front end seat, which is also a fish creelbox built right into the boat. The top of the seat is hinged for removing fish, but when an angler catches a keeper, he merely pushes it through the oval-shaped hole and it drops into the creelbox where a steady stream of fresh river water空注入 the box through a series of small holes drilled in the bottom of the boat. On the next page, Walter Milosell, long-time Ausable resident and builder of these boats, tells a friend how the modern river boats are fiberglassed for greater durability and ease of handling. Mr. Milosell also provided us with the following information about the history of these boats:

"In the late 1800's there was a



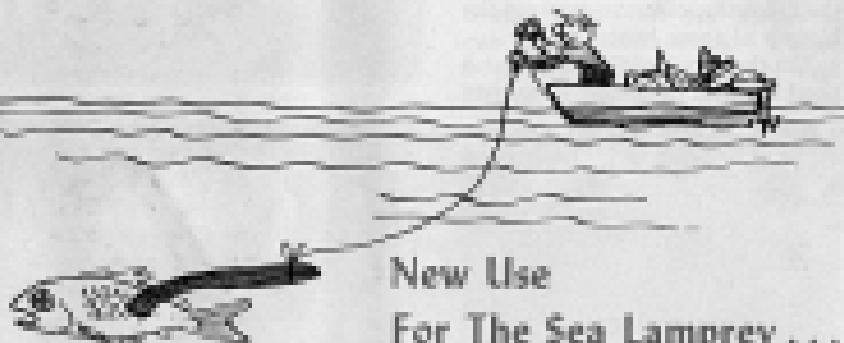


below Grayling catering to fishermen who came literally from all over the world to fish for Grayling in our rivers. The guides at that time used a boat that was pointed at both ends, but was not too satisfactory, until a date that is rumored to be 1890. At that time, a carpenter by the name of Ed Anger, who lived at what is known as Burton's Landing on the AuSable, built the first AuSable River Boat, the parent of our present boat. His original boat was 18 feet long, and he is credited with

including the "well" or livebox for fish in the boat. Around 1900 he gave the late Arthur E. Wanley his information on building these boats. Arthur then started making them. He increased the length and made other improvements, at one time building a boat 28 feet long, but then settling back to building them 24 feet long, of 24-foot lumber, which remained the standard length for quite awhile. As time went on others along the river started making these boats, but each one designed his own a little differently, so that they all now follow a general plan but each has its own individual characteristics. Most of the present-day boats run from 20 to 24 feet long, with a three-foot beam.

"So far as I know, no similar boats have been made and used anywhere in the world, except in this stretch of the AuSable River which would include the area from Grayling to approximately 25 miles downstream."

"Of course as the Grayling fishing declined, the trout replaced them and the role of the river boats has carried on."



New Use For The Sea Lamprey . . .

IN MEMORY OF

by

Clarance Cottee



After "Ding" Darling was made the world was broken. No one else has or can take his place. The tremendous impact of his dynamic and fruitful life of more than 85 years will live long in the hearts of our people and particularly with those of us who were fortunate enough to be associated with him and be fired by his enthusiasm.

I was a young junior biologist in the old Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture when Ding was "drafted" by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Harry Wallace to salvage the Survey and become its Chief. I had been called to his office one Saturday morning in early spring. Shortly after I arrived Mr. Darling received a telephone call from the President. This was one of those unusual cases when reception was so clear I could distinctly hear both ends of the conversation. The President greeted the Chief as "Ding" and said he was calling to inquire if he had an opening perhaps on one of the refuges, where his young son could be put to work for the summer. "Ding" hurriedly replied, "Mr. President, I'll look into your request, but you know superior mental and physical strength are required to handle the important work of this Bureau. Do you think that boy of yours can handle such a job?" The President promptly and good naturedly shouted, "Darnit, I don't expect you to pay him anything. I just want that boy to learn to work." It is my memory the young man spent most of the summer working in one of the National Parks.

"Ding" was a master at debate and usually was able to drown an opponent with one appropriate question or brief but colorful explanation of his views. At an annual convention of the American Ornithologists'



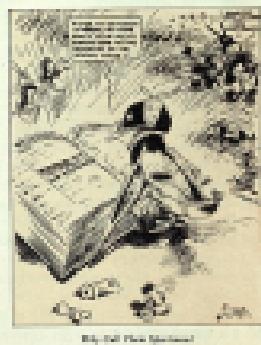
Last One, Here Come The Water Lanes

Union a group of extreme anti-slavery men to persuade Mr. Darling to leave his Bureau devoid from any further rodent, bird and predator control. The spokesman pressed him for his great leadership but condemned the Bureau's efforts and the philosophy of what we termed "balance control." When the Chief could finally get the floor he turned to the leader and inquired simply: "Mr. A_____, did you ever have ants in your sugar?" The leader declined to answer, and the whole point of balance control was made, quite simply.

When "Ding" became Chief of the Biological Survey he unfortunately found himself at cross purposes with a few of the division heads, some of whom seemingly wanted top position in the Bureau themselves. It was apparent to all who knew the Bureau that it was ineffective, deeply in a rut and that it must soon either be rejuvenated

or eliminated. Mr. Darling, with complete support from the Secretary of Agriculture, initiated on deeper digging that would produce plans and programs to make the Bureau effective.

At that time, the most devastating drought in American history was at its worst. It was apparent something had to be done to save our endangered watershed because the prairie breeding grounds were largely eliminated. At a staff meeting, Ding was chastising division heads for their failure to advance plans to meet the serious problem confronting wildlife resources, particularly waterfowl. He explained that even Secretary Wallace was so concerned that he had asked to see any of the Bureau's plans for meeting the crisis. One leading division chief, whose responsibility dealt with waterfowl, and who himself had applied for the position as



Migratory Cæsarian

Charles Coulom is widely known for his lifelong work in the field of Game protection. He was born in Utah and after extensive education in the Army service, was at the head of various state of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is now director of the Wildlife Wildlife Federation in Texas.

bureau chief, objected and shouted with obvious irritation and disgust, "Mr. Darling, I have well-made plans and lots of them to meet our present危急." To this, the Chief turned instantly in surprise and glowing interest and answered, "I'm delighted. Will you please show me some of these?" Mr. M_____ in characteristic pride tapped his big hand with one finger and replied, "See, I keep my plans right up here." The Chief's instantaneous and searching retort was swift given: "How wouldn't that be a hell of a thing to show the Secretary?" The laughter that followed loosened up everybody, and better teamwork, plans, and blueprints soon were in the making.

As a leader of men in his own Bureau he was skilled indeed, although he was far from orthodox in following accustomed procedures. His devotion to the pressing problems at hand, his unlimited enthusiasm, captivating personality and friendly encouragement soon had almost the entire staff solidly behind him. Men,

which a few months earlier had been at rock bottom, soon climbed to unprecedented heights, and the time and effort put forth by the staff could not have been higher.

His compelling evangelism for conservation of our natural resources knew no bounds and the good he did can scarcely be estimated. His advice and help were constantly sought by national, state and local leaders. To coordinate conservation groups he was the motivating influence in the formation of the National Wildlife Federation. Truly, J. N. Darling, cartoonist, critic, formulator, thinker, and humorist, was one of America's great citizens.

"DING KNOWS THE SECRET OF INDEPENDENCE, INDEPENDENCE KNOWS DING."



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Look Out, Here Come The Nature Lovers

either this dictionary is wrong or there are a lot of polks around here calling themselves by the strong name."

CASE HISTORY
SCHOOL, MUSEUM,
CLIQUE
BAPTISTES



Why Call Them Sportmen?

"BYE NOW—IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL KNOWING YOU



Ding's Farewell

fisheries; in those days dealt in needles, threads, and tapes more than in men's hats, but these items also played an important part in the angling world. The homspun angler might buy his fishing rod ready made, but he had to fashion his own hooks, usually out of Spanish needles. Such a needle was heated and bent, then a bark was cut into the metal while still hot and soft. Finally, the hook was reheated and dashed in cold water for hardening.

Soon, too, came the time of split rods, spliced together and not pointed. Six, eight, ten or twelve split pieces might be joined together, using various types of wood, and tapering evenly throughout the entire 18 to 21 feet of rod length. Such spliced rods were first mentioned in 1970, but by that date, the rod had been invented. Now, with a spool of line available, an angler could reel in or out and play the fish without need for such a long pole. Rods, accordingly soon dropped in length toward the 8 to 12 foot mark, rather close to present fly rod lengths.

Thus, over a period of 4000 years, came the evolution of fishing as a sport, from a time of short rods, short lines, and hand-driven techniques, through the early use of artificial flies, to the time of long poles and playing of fish on light tackle, then to the invention of the modern rod, the short rod, and use of a variety of artificial flies. The next issue of Michigan Conservation will continue with the coming of bamboo and its important effect on this fine sport.

THE WALKER

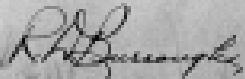
John Burroughs, the naturalist, pointed out in 1879 that Americans were unwilling walkers; that most of them had nothing to interest in a walk; that walking was generally regarded as being too slow and too cheap for enjoyment.

If this was true eighty-seven years ago, how much more so has it become since then? Yet it is a rare privilege to be able to walk. There is no better way, in fact no other way, to become acquainted with the land and its products, with the plants and animals that inhabit the country-side.

There is always something new to be seen or investigated if one walks slowly and observes closely. On the contrary, the man who hurries on and hears little or nothing of what is happening either in the physical or biological world around him. He does not see the green stems in the grass, the snowdrift in the furrow, or the tracks and traces of wildlife in the path which he travels. He does not hear the drumming gnat or the songbird in the bushes of the place. His eyes are not adjusted and his ears are not attuned to see or hear the things that attract the man who has learned that the way to enjoy a walk is to proceed slowly and to stop, look and listen at frequent intervals.

Of course we are not all alike and our interests differ accordingly. That which is pure gold to some of us may be drudgery to others. It would be futile to take a friend who has no interest in the out-of-doors on one of your prospecting trips in the woods and fields. He would think that you were slightly cracked if you should pause to greet a wildflower or exchange insults with a red squirrel. He would become impatient while you sat quietly upon a log to see what birds and mammals would come out of hiding and resume the activities that were interrupted by your approach. He would be bored while you searched for agates and Petoskey stones on a gravelly beach. He would be horrified if you were friendly with some harmless snake.

It is not necessary to be a naturalist to enjoy the living or the lifeless entities which constitute our world. If you do your walking leisurely in the fields and woods you are likely to find much of interest that is interesting.

The signature of John Burroughs, written in cursive ink. The signature is fluid and expressive, with varying line thicknesses. It reads "John Burroughs".