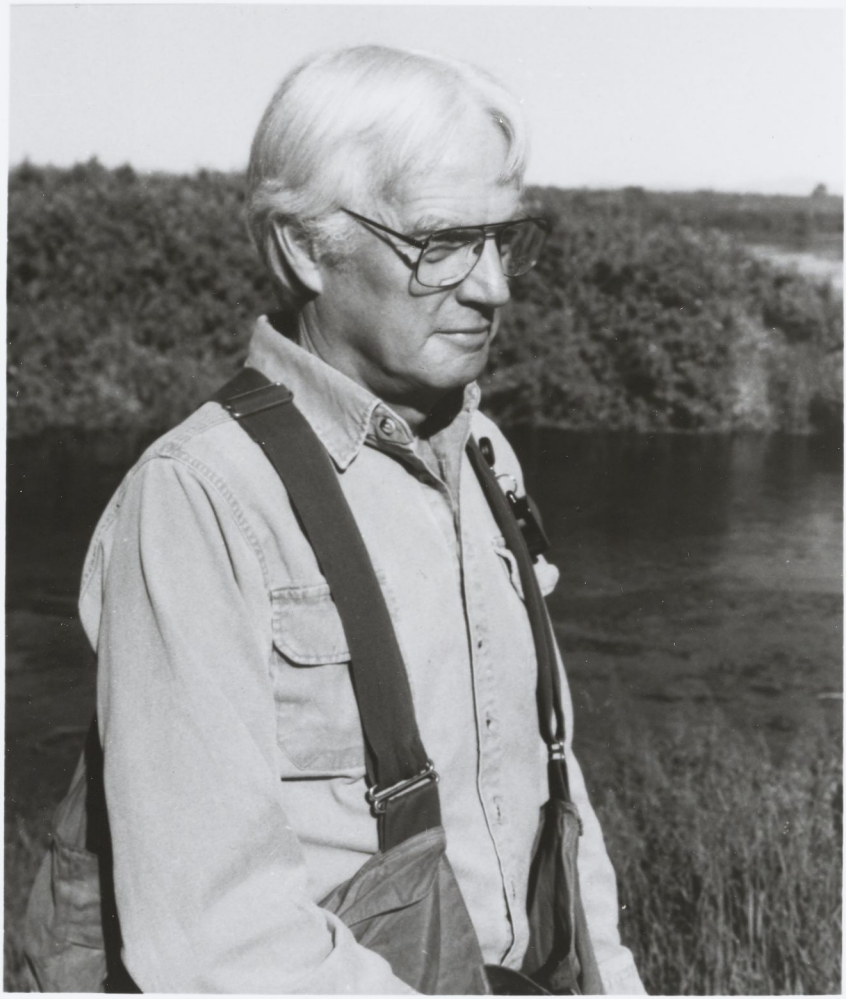
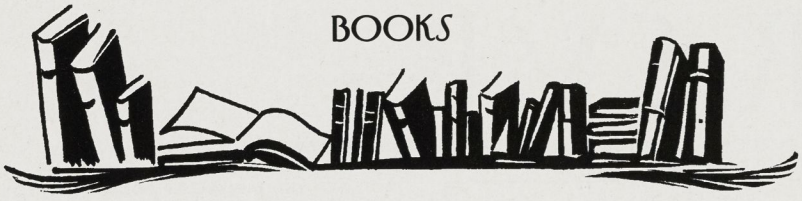


DATUS PROPER
Author of
PHEASANTS OF THE MIND: A Hunter's Search for a Mythic Bird
Prentice Hall Press
$18.95/cloth
Photo by Anna Collins-Proper



FEASTING ON LIFE

The American appetites of a girl from Whittier.

BY JOAN ACOCELLA

If you woke me up in the middle of the night and asked me which piece of writing by M. F. K. Fisher I liked best, I would probably say the chapter on making meals during blackouts in "How to Cook a Wolf," a book published during the Second World War. Fisher takes the problem seriously. Don't curse God and die, she says. Cheer up! You *can* feed that family with no fresh foods, no electricity, no gas, no light, and no conviction that you'll be alive tomorrow.

Let's see. "Now would be a good time to get out the old chafing dish." Do your cooking during the day, while there is still light. Lay in a "blackout cupboard" of prepared foods, including, she says—with what must have been a major gut-clenching, for she was a great gourmet—"cheeses in glass." Yes, Cheez Whiz, or whatever it was called in 1942. "In a time of peril and unspoken fear," she explains, cheese, any cheese, is "an anesthetic. . . . Put a little bit on crackers, or on crisp toast if your oven is still working. Try it on a tired factory worker some day, or a nervous neighbor, with a glass of milk if possible or a cup of tea, and watch the unfolding of a lot of spiritual tendrils that were drawn up into a tight heedless tangle."

I missed the Second World War and can only pretend to picture in my mind the things I read in Primo Levi, for example. But in this image of a woman holding out Cheez Whiz on a cracker to a neighbor whose son is late coming home from the munitions factory, I get as close as I ever will to knowing what the war was like for those who survived it.

The moral beauty of Fisher's writing is not easy to talk about, because such a fuss has been made over it. Fisher published her first book in 1937 and for the next twenty-five years had only a modest readership. Then, in the sixties and seventies, her small craft was suddenly borne aloft on the upheavals of that era: the food revolution, the sexual revolution, the women's movement, all of them doubly strong in her home state of California. She became a hero, a prophet of the food/sex sacramentalism of the period. Today, six years after her death, her cult still flourishes. Seventeen of her twenty-

six books are still, or back, in print, including a few that needn't be. And that's not counting the spinoffs. Last year, we got "A Welcoming Life: The M. F. K. Fisher Scrapbook" (Counterpoint; $35), with countless photographs of her—wineglass in hand—flanked by nuggety quotes from her writings. Now, from the same publisher, we have "A Life in Letters: Correspondence 1929-1991" ($35), five hundred pages long.

One thing the letters tell us is how bewildered she was by the sudden attention she received in her late years, and how resistant to the politics behind it. The food revolution receives tart comment ("I do dislike huge piles of *sprouts* in things"). Ditto feminism. Like other freethinking women of her generation—Doris Lessing, Mary McCarthy—she had misgivings about her jackbooted legatees. Most of all, she disliked the sex angle, the idea that she was the one who initiated the "sensuous gourmet" trend in food writing. Actually, she probably did initiate it. She spoke often of the pleasures of the flesh, in such a way as to indicate that she didn't just mean eating, and occasionally she unloaded a full, hundred-pound sententia on the subject, as in her foreword to "The Gastronomical Me," in 1943. People often asked her, she said, why she chose to be a food writer—why she didn't write about "the struggle for power and security, and about love, the way others do." And her answer was: "It seems to me that our three basic needs, for food and security and love, are so mixed and mingled and entwined that we cannot straightly think of one without the others. So it happens that when I write about hunger I am really writing about love and the hunger for it, and warmth and the love of it and the hunger for it . . . and then the warmth and richness and fine reality of hunger satisfied . . . and it is all one." (Ellipses hers.)

These Khalil Gibran-like words have been quoted again and again—they are the theme song of the Fisher cult—but they represent her poorly. She thought and wrote better than that, as one can find out by going back to her books. Now one can go to the letters, too. As they reveal, food and security and love were not her only basic needs. She had a fourth one: writing. Furthermore, food and security and love were not all one. Food was easier to get.

Mary Frances Kennedy, who later married Alfred Fisher, was born in Albion, Michigan, in 1908. When she was two, the family moved to California—to the Quaker town of Whittier, where Richard Nixon, whose favorite dish was cottage cheese and ketchup, was growing up at the same time. She adored California, and, like other artists born or, more often, transplanted there (Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham), she regarded it as a fundamental source of her identity. "I really started to be me somewhere there," she said. The family lived outside town, on a ranch with an orchard and chickens and a pig and a cow and a horse named Hi-Ho Silver. She embraced the bright air, the black soil, and these things gave her the courage to rebel against her family's low-church attitudes, at least in the kitchen. She was a gourmet from childhood: on the cook's night off, she made dinner. She was also a journalist from childhood: her father, a fourth-generation newspaperman, was the owner

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ANSWERS TO 8×10 CRYPTIC NO. 33

ACROSS

1 B(ASK)ED
7 ETC. + H
8 LA + OS (rev.)
9 H + OVER + S
10 K(HOME)IN + I
12 HELMS (2 defs.)
13 DWEL + T (*lewd* rev.)
14 TO(READ)OR (*root* rev.)
16 A + RAF(A)T
17 IS + LE
18 SEEN (hidden)
19 ARC + AR + O

DOWN

1 BEA + K (ref. Bea Arthur)
2 AT THE WORST (hidden)
3 S(CH)OLAR
4 E(L)VES
5 CORN(FLOW)ER
6 bASSIST
11 ICED TEA (anag.)
12 H(OT) AIR (*to* rev.)
13 DEFER (rev.)
15 R + ENO (*one* rev.)

M. F. K. Fisher (opposite) in New York in 1945. And Wayne Thiebaud's "Appetizers," from the 1994 edition of Brillat-Savarin's "The Physiology of Taste," translated by Fisher in 1949.

and editor of the Whittier *News*, and by the time she was a teen-ager he had her subbing for the gardening and society columnists—even the sportswriter—when they went on vacation.

Like so many good writers, she was an indifferent student, and, no doubt, it was partly to get out of having to finish college that in 1929 she married Al Fisher, a young academic. Soon they took off for Dijon, he to write his dissertation, she to take art classes, and she fell in love with France—a passion that would remain with her for the rest of her life. In a letter to her sister Anne, age nineteen, she describes the natives:

> French people eat the most intricate entrails of everything from the horse to the snail; they have perfectly awful table manners, mop up their plates after each course with a piece of bread, change napkins once a week, and have little supports on which you put your knife and fork after a course; the men go casually into any of the fifty thousand open-air johnnies that seem to line the streets, and then spend half a block nonchalantly buttoning up their trousers.

In a letter to her brother David, age ten, she tells how a French sommelier opens a bottle of wine:

> Drawing the cork is a great ceremony—waiters cluster around the wine-master, and the man who has ordered it listens anxiously to see if the pop sounds right. Then the cork is waved under his nose, and he sniffs it loudly. Finally the wine is poured, still in the cradle, into his glass, and he sips it slowly and with the most amazing noises. The waiters and the wine-master watch his face to see if he likes it, and finally go away.

She was twenty-one. She was a writer already; she just didn't know it.

Nor, beyond letter-writing, did she try it until about five years later, when she began to think of leaving Al. She knew she would need money, so she started writing magazine pieces. Soon she fell in love with a friend, Dillwyn Parrish, a painter from a family of painters. (Maxfield Parrish was a cousin of his.) She went off to live with him in Switzerland, and now she discovered something: sex. As comes out very gradually in the letters, this was not part of her relationship with Al. The son of a Presbyterian minister, he was "frightened and repelled by the actual physical act of love." With Parrish it was different. He uncorked her. They gardened, they picnicked, they talked for hours on end. He painted, she wrote; she became a writer at last. They made love. This went on for a year. In 1938, Dillwyn developed an embolism in his leg, and the leg was amputated,

but the pain didn't go away. Soon his condition was diagnosed as Buerger's disease, a fatal circulatory disorder. They moved back to the United States and got married, but they had no hope. "He can't walk at all unless I hold him," she wrote to a friend. "His pain is terrible to think of." Finally, in 1941, after three years of anguish, he killed himself.

Fisher's life went into a tailspin. A year after Dillwyn's suicide, her brother David also committed suicide, the night before he was to go into the Army. The year after that, Fisher gave birth to an illegitimate child—her first daughter, Anne. (She told everyone the child was adopted. She never revealed who the father was.) Two years after that, on a trip to New York, she met a dashing book editor, Donald Friede, and though she seems never to have trusted him—he had already been through five wives—within two weeks she became the sixth. (She telegraphed a friend: "I ACCIDENTALLY GOT MARRIED SATURDAY TO DONALD FRIEDE.") In 1946, she had his baby, her second daughter, Mary. But before long Friede's publishing career was in ruins, and he was in the throes of a mental breakdown. In 1951, she divorced him, after six years of marriage.

She remained unbroken. From 1937 to 1949, through grief and hell, she published nine books. I guess we should pause for a minute over the fact that she became a writer once she had become a sexual being. But a minute is enough. Twenty-nine was not a late age for a woman of her generation to be publishing her first book, and, as I said, she needed money. The notable thing is not that sex opened her up but that the complications and disasters that followed did not close her down again. "How to Cook a Wolf," that brave, happy book, was dictated to her sister Norah, at the typewriter, as Fisher, still in black grief over Dillwyn, paced up and down in the house where he had shot himself only months before. "The Gastronomical Me," which followed a year later, was "conceived and written and typed in ten weeks," as she did other work on the side and gestated a fatherless child.

Then came an experience, seemingly benign, that did almost break her. In 1949, her mother, bedridden for nearly a decade, died. Her father now needed someone to run his house, and Fisher, his oldest child, decided she should do it. For four years, she remained in Whit-

tier—a conservative town where she no longer felt comfortable—cooking, cleaning, running around after her daughters, and watching her father, who was dying of pulmonary fibrosis, hawk up phlegm and spit it into the fireplace. She had no one to talk to. She began having spells of depression and, if I read her correctly, severe anxiety attacks. She began seeing a psychiatrist.

During this whole period, she wrote next to nothing, apart from columns, including her father's, for the Whittier *News*. (This was part of the deal. As long as she was there to help with the paper, he didn't have to sell it, though he was far too old and sick to run it.) She stopped thinking of herself as a writer. Rather, as she wrote to Norah, she was "a genteel has-been now and then asked to speak ten minutes at an arty tea." This state of mind continued long past her father's death, in 1953. She who had published nine books in twelve years brought out not a single new book in the twelve years after she moved into her father's house. Those who lament the dissolution of the American family—kids with no way to get to Girl Scouts, aging parents put into nursing homes—should remember what it was that kept the American family together: women's blood.

ONCE Fisher's father had died, she moved to St. Helena, in the Napa Valley—a region she loved—and learned to be happy again: "I stand dreaming at the windows. The vineyards are waist-high with wild mustard now. We walk along the little roads, humming and listening to the birds, with mimosa in our topknots." The rest of her life was spent in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys, with occasional stays in Switzerland or her beloved France. She had a few affairs, including one with Arnold Gingrich, the editor of *Esquire* and an important figure in the New York magazine world. He was married, but it seems they had fun for a time. She never again thought of herself as having a major talent—or, if she did, such thoughts were quickly displaced by the daughters, the dogs, the cats, and the endless parade of guests whom she loved to cook for. As she wrote to a friend in 1947, she wanted to be a good writer, "but I also want children and love and stress and panic and in the end I am too tired to write with the nun-like ascetic self-denial and concentration it takes."

Actually, after her dry spell between 1949 and 1961, she published fourteen more books, including "Map of Another Town" (1964), on Aix-en-Provence; "A Considerable Town" (1978), on Marseilles; "As They Were" (1982), a memoir; and "Sister Age" (1983), on old age. Yet she never ceased to speak slightingly of her work. Her best book, she decided, was "A Cordiall Water," on home remedies: "It is a rather comforting little book, the kind to be read on an air-trip or during childbirth maybe."

She grew old early, and seems to have wanted to. She had a consuming interest in aging. (She was in her twenties when she began collecting the materials for "Sister Age," published when she was seventy-four.) The years were not kind to her. By her sixties, she had severe arthritis, so that eventually she could neither type nor write by hand, and had to dictate her work to a secretary. By her seventies, her eyesight was going, and she had Parkinson's, which also affected her voice. Now she had to whisper her work to the secretary. Still, she was a fine, grouchy old lady. When her friends whined about their problems, she told them to shape up. When she got tired of family Christmases, she bowed out, and spent the day listening to records and drinking a bottle of champagne by herself. Always plainspoken, she became more so. The people who had her to dinner on February 19, 1970, are not going to be happy to learn what she thought of their "turd-like sausages" and "meaningless vinaigrette."

These are superb letters—long, meaty, intimate, conversational. You can practically hear her breathing. And they remind us of her faithfulness to reality, her ability to let things stay mixed and strange—to let them grow at the edges and stay loose in the center. This is one of the glories of her books. I am thinking, for example, of the great chapter in "Map of Another Town" where she describes the cavalcade of disastrous housemaids—"nitwits, sick old whores and dipsomaniacs"—who trooped through her pension in Aix: Marie-Claude, so blind that she drove her bicycle into a truck; Marie-Claire, like Rochester's wife. In each case, amid the hilarity of the portrait, we get an account of what that woman endured during the Occupation, but there is no lifting of the hilarity. The chapter is like a little Mozart opera—a comedy with a tragedy buried in it.

This play of contrasts made her, at times, a very strange food writer. When she recalls a wonderful salad eaten on a

DEFERRED SILENCE

There is a
deferred silence
which only follows
a deferred sound.
As when an oak falls
when no one is around.
The violence waits
for someone to approach
to have just stopped.
There is that ozone
freshness to the aftershock.

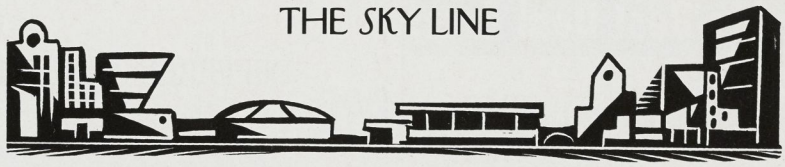
—KAY RYAN

train, she praises the bugs in it almost as highly as the greens. And here is her portrait of the Marseillais:

To me they are attractive, the way a magnet is: hard, perhaps ruthless but with real scruples and ethics. I have no desire for physical contact or any attempt at intimacy with them, but I love to be near them. I feel that I understand, at least empathetically, why they are made exactly as they are, short, compact, with small graceful hands and feet and faces of stone.

Sometimes she pushes the device too hard, and wears us out. Still, such anti-sentimentality is the mark of a fine mind—a higher form of irony—and it was part of her morality.

Fisher had another great virtue as a writer—an enormous tact, a sense of when to end, when to omit—but this blessing is not present in her letters, because they are letters. She is writing to Norah, or Gingrich, or whomever, and is unloading after a long day. So she tells them how she had to replace the clutch in the Caravelle and what she wore to the restaurant and who ordered what. Some of this should have been cut. And when she, like the rest of us, uses the same joke on three different correspondents, things should have been arranged so that we would encounter it only once. The editors—Norah Barr (the beloved sister), Marsha Moran (the secretary to whom she whispered her late works), and Patrick Moran ("a close family friend," the press release says)—were too indulgent. We also need many more footnotes. But never mind. This is a priceless book: a whole life, a serious life, eighty-four years long. You come out of it tired, as she did, and, like her, not necessarily smarter ("I don't feel very wise"), but less alone. ♦



THE SKY LINE

THE PEOPLE'S GETTY

How the city on a hill became a magnet for the masses.

BY PAUL GOLDBERGER

IT is a paradox of Southern California that you have to remove yourself from the city to have an urban experience—or at least an upbeat one. You get in your car and drive a long distance on the freeway so that you can walk around Disneyland, and who wouldn't rather stroll along Disney's Main Street U.S.A. than in downtown Los Angeles? People throng to CityWalk, at Universal Studios, which is a kind of theme park masquerading as a city street; in Beverly Hills, people come to play city at 2 Rodeo Drive, a shopping mall that is a stage-set version of a European street, its cobblestones rising gently over convenient underground parking.

Visitors have come to the Getty on foot, by Rollerblade, by bus, and by bicycle.

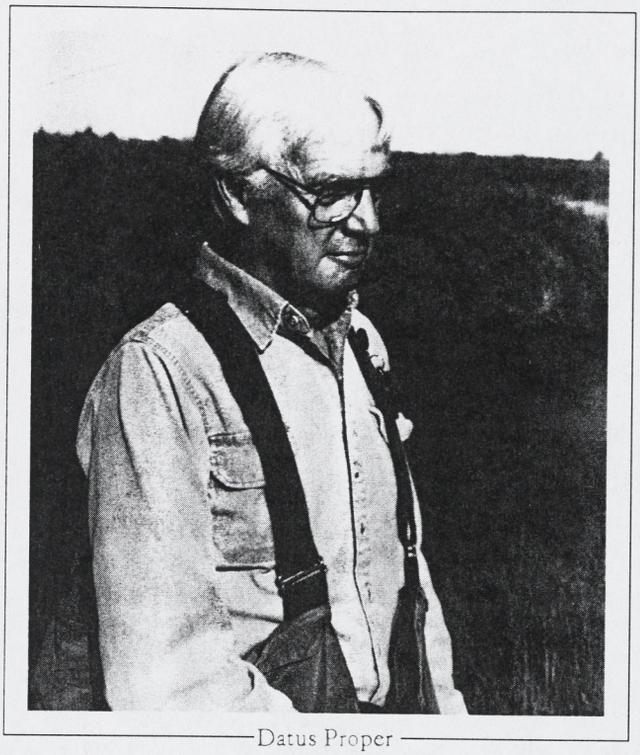
The planners of the Getty Center, the billion-dollar complex of six buildings high atop a hill in the Brentwood section of Los Angeles, did not intend their work to be the latest addition to this list of alluring fantasy environments, but that is what it has become. In 1984, when the Getty Trust commissioned the architect Richard Meier to design this immense project, the goal was to create a campus for the display, conservation, and study of high art, housed in buildings as serious in their architectural ambition as the Getty would be in its scholarly mission. The Getty was not intended as a populist enterprise. Indeed, during the fifteen years of planning and construction, it was widely criticized as being the opposite—an élitist palace that would look down upon culture-starved Los Angeles with disdain.

And then, in December, the Getty opened, and the place that was supposed to be where California got a dose of serious culture has turned out to be, instead, where serious culture gets a dose of California. The most astonishing thing about the Getty could not be seen during the months of private pre-opening V.I.P. tours, and that is the way in which the public has embraced what was supposed to have repelled it. The surging crowds, more than double what the planners had projected, have redefined the Getty as one of those Southern California monuments in which a fantasy environment becomes the setting for a kind of enthusiastic, if ersatz, urban life.

The crowds frequently reach more than ten thousand a day. They wait patiently in line at the bottom of the hill for the white tramcars that will take them on a four-minute ride to the summit. (As at San Simeon and at Disneyland, automobiles are kept far away, so as not to spoil the purity of the stage set.) The crowds emerge onto a plaza that is the weakest part of Meier's design, but they swarm eagerly across it, buying cappuccinos, sitting at little café tables, and staring at Meier's sprawling compositions of glass, enamel panels, and stone as if they were looking not at high American corporate modernism but at a piazza in Tuscany.

Meier's style is a kind of romantic modernism, serious in intent, almost always beautiful in design and execution,

GÉRARD NICOLAS



Datus Proper

Photo by Anna Collins-Proper

Pheasants of the Mind by Datus C. Proper

(New York: Prentice-Hall, 1990. 154 pages, $18.95)

Review by Bill Baines

Author Datus Proper connects pheasant hunting with myth in the form of the quest, one of man's most enduring and powerful mythic patterns, a pattern which informs much, if not most, of the world's greatest and oldest literature. This connection begins in the introduction: "Hunting is not fiction, but it happens in the mind. It is the oldest and youngest thing in the world. It feels like dawn."

If that doesn't put you off, and if you would "rather hunt one bird than shoot many," a treat awaits you in *Pheasants of the Mind*. 'Pheasants" is really two books. Making that judgement happens easier than breaking the book in two, however. In the mythic conceit, each bird becomes a quest and hunting clothes armor. That's one book. In the other, Proper conveys "real" information about dogs and guns and recipes, information that the reader will value for itself. If you've guessed by now that this book fits easily into no sporting writing niche, you've got the idea. Neither poem nor how-to-where-to, it is both, interwoven in the style and flow of fine conversation.

That many lines--too many for a brief review--beg to be pulled from the text and cited indicates a rich union of reflection and word that few modern outdoor books have. For this reason, Proper's book, like his old Woodward side-by-side, will not appeal to all pheasant hunters. The person who will enjoy "Pheasants" will be he or she for whom hunting is "of the mind," an activity that brings joy even when open season is months away or when it remains only in the mind's eye. If you fall into that dwindling group, make room next to the Babcock, Rutledge and Evans volumes on the shelf. As you return to them on quiet evenings when autumn is only a crisp and silent promise, so will you reach for *Pheasants of the Mind.*

577. The Pictorial Museum of Sport & Adventure: being a record of daring & marvelous escapes, by field &flood. 4to - Earle, Boston - nd (circa 1880) - 508p - illustrated with 120 b/w engravings & 8 color plates + a color title page with a lion's head vignette by Landseer - covers a tremendous range: hunting lion, elephant, chamois, grizzly, etc - stories of man-eating tigers, eagles, crocodiles, etc - descriptions of seals & salmon, sturgeon fisheries, trout & char, a day's fishing in Michigan & lots more - residue of tape on inner front hinge - blue cloth with an ornate pictorial scene decorated in silver & gilt (a fabulous binding!) - aeg - VG+ $ 60.00

578. PIKE, WARBURTON - Through The Sub-Arctic Forest. Arno, Abercrombie & Fitch Library, NY - 1967 reprint of the 1896 edition - 295p - illustrated + two foldout maps - a classic of the Northwest - down the Yukon River in Canada in 1887 - VG $ 20.00

579. PINCHER, CHAPMAN - A Study of Fish. Duell Sloan & Pearce, NY - 1948 1st ed - 343p - drawings by author - 309 fish from all over the world are described - hundreds of strange & memorable scientific facts are disclosed - bookplate of Luis Marden - DJ VG $ 25.00

580. PINCKNEY, FRANK - The Tarpon: or silver king. square 12mo - Angler's Publishing, NY - 1888 1st ed - 66p + 8p ads for Florida fishing resorts, Vom Hofe tackle, etc - illustrated + large three-color foldout map - blue/gray cloth with gilt title & silver tarpon on cover - the cloth appears to be glazed as it is shiny - still a very rare book in VG condition $1200.00

581. PITMAN, IAN - And Clouds Flying: a book of wildfowl. Faber, London - 1947 1st ed - 152p - 2 color plates & drawings by Peter Scott - mainly a book of memories by this Scottish wildfowler, who loved to hunt alone with his dog - blue cloth - VG $ 25.00

582. POPOWSKI, BERT - Calling All Varmints. Stackpole, Harrisburg - 1952 1st ed - 308p - drawings - the popularity of varmint hunting is on the increase: bobcat, coyote, crow, fox + non-predatory varmints: woodchuck, rabbit & porcupine - DJ F $ 25.00

583. PRECHT, DAVE (editor) - Bassmaster's Best of Lures: a "how-to" treasury. 4to - B.A.S.S. Montgomery - 1989 1st ed - 352p - profusely illustrated with color & b/w photos + drawings - a good lure reference + filled with the history of the sport & it's tackle - black glossy binding with color paste-down of a bass taking a lure - aeg - VF $ 35.00

584. PROPER, DATUS C. - Pheasants of The Mind: a hunter's search for a mythic bird. Prentice Hall, NY - 1990 1st ptg - 154p - illustrated by Eldridge Hardy - explores the wonders of nature, the art of the hunt & the glory of the English language + a witty, insightful guide to the selection of a loyal bird dog - a great book - DJ F $ 25.00

585. (-) What The Trout Said: about the design of trout flies & other mysteries. Knopf, NY - 1982 1st ed - drawings by Bill Elliott + 4 color photos of flies - intro by Vince Marinaro who says, "how I would have cherished a book like this in my formative years" (and Vince was tight with his praise) - written in the tradition of Halford, Skues, LaBranche, Marinaro, etc - DJ VF $ 60.00

WITH ORIGINAL PROSPECTUS

586. QUACKENBOS, JOHN D. - Geological Ancestors of The Brook Trout: & recent saibling forms from which evolved. PP by The Anglers' Club, NY - 1916 limited to 300 numbered & SIGNED copies (#282) - 50p printed on one side only - portrait frontis + 10 plates of fish, all but two in color - original green calf with photo inlay & gilt title - one of the better copies we have ever offered - very light fading to spine else near fine with the original prospectus laid in $450.00

587. QUINN, TOM - The Working Retrievers: the training, care & handling of retrievers for hunting & field trials. 4to - Lyons, NY - 1998 2nd ed - 257p - photos & diagrams + a 16p gallery of color paintings by the author - with a new foreword by Steve Bodio - DJ as new $ 40.00

563. PATTERSON, NEIL - Chalkstream Chronicles: living out the flyfisher's fantasy. Lyons & Burford, NY - 1995 1st American ed - 296p text + 12p fly charts & drawings - a memoir of a brave man; quit his job to fish full time - an innovative fly tyer who created many new patterns - DJ VF $ 35.00

564. PEARCE, MICHAEL - Sporting Clays: expert techniques for every kind of clays course. Stackpole, Harrisburg - 1991 1st ed - 149p - photos - all you need to get started or get better - DJ as new $ 18.00

565. PEPER, ERIC & JIM RICKHOFF (editors) - Fishing Moments of Truth. Winchester, NY - 1973 1st ed - 207p - illustrated by Milton Weiler - a collection of 22 stories: Steve Raymond, Lee Wulff, Dana Lamb, Art Flick, Schwiebert, Haig-Brown, etc - F in VG+ DJ $ 25.00

566. PEQUEGNOT, JEAN-PAUL - French Fishing Flies. Lyons, NY - 1987 1st American ed - 125p - drawings - translated from the first edition in French by Robert A. Chino with a new introduction by Datus Proper - not just patterns, but how the flies work in the stream + the techniques he uses in fishing them - DJ VF $ 25.00

567. PERRY, OLIVER HAZARD - Hunting Expeditions of Oliver Hazard Perry: as recorded in the diaries kept from 1836 through 1855. St Huberts Press, DeForest (WI) - 1994 facsimile edition limited to 100 numbered copies SIGNED by the editor - edited with intro & notes by John E. Howard - illustrated - the first edition was privately printed in 1899 & is rare - the daily adventures of this mid-nineteenth century deer slayer in the forests of northern Michigan + elk & wild turkey hunting - gilt-stamped brown leather with photo onlay - aeg - as new $150.00

568. Another - as above - the trade ed - gilt-stamped brown cloth - as new $ 45.00

569. PETERSON, EDWIN LEWIS - No Life So Happy. Dodd Mead, NY - 1940 1st ed - 221p - drawings by William Schaldach - a marvelous fly fishing story about going after the "big one"" - a well written book - F+ $ 50.00

570. PETZEL, DAVID E. - The Expert's Book of Upland Bird & Waterfowl Hunting. Simon & Schuster, NY - 1975 1st ed - 315p - photos - Evans on woodcock, Brady on wild turkey, Taylor on goose shooting + quail, pheasant, grouse, bird dogs, etc - DJ F $ 15.00

571. PHILLIPS, ARCHIE & BUBBA (love that name!) - How to Mount Deer: for profit or fun. 4to - Stackpole, Harrisburg - 1980 -128p - photos & diagrams - a guide to trophy taxidermy the easy, inexpensive way - now, you just have to get your deer - here, the problem is they may get us first - F in VG DJ $ 20.00

572. PHILLIPS, ARTHUR S. - My Wilderness Friends. 12mo - PP at Munroe Press, Fall River - 1910 - 81p - photos - the author was president of the Quequechan Fish & Game Club - fishing & hunting in New Brunswick & Quebec with some cantankerous guides - original green cloth - SIGNED by the author - VG+ - rare $200.00

573. PHILLIPS, JAMES H. - Undercover Wildlife Agent: the casebook of federal conservation officer, Robert O. Halstead. Winchester, Tulsa - 1981 1st ptg - 108p - illustrated - the adventures of a game warden - his exploits are equally fascinating & sometimes frightening - DJ F $ 15.00

A PRISTINE COPY

574. PHILLIPS, JOHN C. - A Sportsman's Scrapbook. Houghton Mifflin, Boston - 1928 1st ed - 212p - illustrated by A.L. Ripley - stories of grouse & duck shooting, moose & chamois hunting & two stories on trout fishing - VF in VF Ripley illustrated DJ $150.00

575. PICKERING, H.G. - Neighbors Have My Ducks. 12mo - Derrydale Press, NY - 1937 limited to 227 numbered & SIGNED copies (#95) - 47p - illustrated by Harry L. Timmins - Long Island duck hunting experiences - maroon cloth with gilt title & decor - VF $500.00

576. Another - as above - (#29) spine lightly sunned else F $400.00

IN PRINT

BOOKS ON WYOMING WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Up on the River

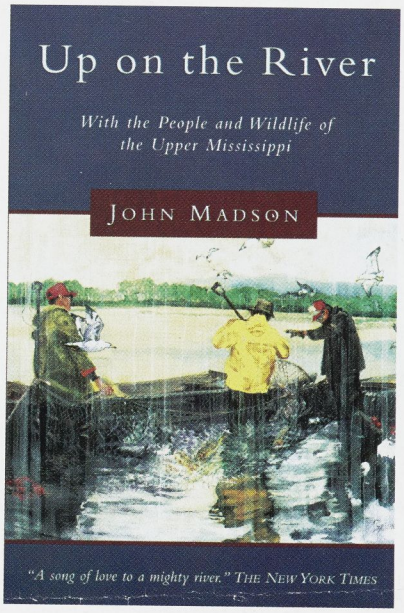
written by John Madson, $16.95, published by The Lyons Press, 123 West 18 Street, New York, NY 10011; www.lyonspress.com

I'm the first to admit that the Wyoming high country doesn't have much in common with the upper Mississippi River, the subject of John Madson's *Up on the River*. But readers of *Wyoming Wildlife* have had the chance to savor John Madson's writing over many years, and judging from the reaction, many of you admire his work.

Before his death in 1995, Madson wrote for *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, *Audubon*, *National Wildlife*, *Field & Stream*, *Outdoor Life*, and most of the rest of the nation's premier magazines on natural history and outdoor sports. Several years ago, he was introduced to a woman at a meeting who asked what he did for a living. He paused for a second, then replied, "Mostly, I write rare books."

They *are* rare, in more ways than one. His book on tallgrass prairie, *Where the Sky Began*, is generally regarded as the best popular work on the subject. This volume and *Up On the River* both drew aclaim from a host of critics. When it first appeared, *The New York Times* said that *Up On the River* is "a song of love to a mighty river." *Outside* magazine described it as "a sturdy and witty book that does honor to its subject. . . . There are characters and anecdotes that Twain himself might wish he'd written."

Characters indeed. Like John Peacock, the dealer in freshwater pearls. Or Charley Gibbs, commercial fisherman and master of buffalo chowder. Or Joe Martelle, one of the last of the dying breed of clammers, men who dredged



freshwater mussels off the river bottom and sold them to button manufacturers by the ton. Or Three-Finger George Kaufman, the game warden, fifty-year veteran of the river beat.

"Whatever their calling, they all shared a common and consuming interest in things riverine," Madson writes— "whether the ducks were moving, who was having the best catches of fish or fur, what towboat had run its barges aground, who was finding mushrooms out on the island, and whether the River was rising or falling. . . . I almost never meet one who is sour or bitter; that kind is more likely to be found ashore, probably well inland, out of sight of the River, with no interests but his own aches and pains."

Winding through this collection of hard-bitten outdoor folk is the River itself. Madson traces the history of the upper Mississippi, the gigantic waterfall that once thundered into a 200-foot gorge in a place that would become downtown St. Paul, and later on the mile-wide river "whose waters are as transparent as those of a mountain spring." Then the modern River "on August afternoons when water and sun flow together like molten brass, the January days under white skies and a wind of searing cold with the long booming howl of thirty-inch ice expanding across the great river pools, and transition seasons of gentleness and beauty: that special world of mud, scour holes, wild orchids, yorky nuts and fine pearls, of crowfoot bars, trammel nets and heron rookeries." He tells of a trapper on ice skates racing a river otter under a crystalline sheet of backwater ice. And giant fish— eight-foot sturgeon, 200-pound paddlefish, hundred-pound cats, and John A. Grindle, the dogfish. Madson's discussion of fish leads inevitably to a consideration of sandbar cuisine. Smoked sturgeon, walleye, fresh catfish done over a driftwood fire are all considered in loving detail. Also the ultimate gourmet item in the river bottoms: the morel.

"Maybe I'm more stomach than soul," Madson writes, "but to me one of the best reasons for spring coming at all is this wrinkled tan cone that grows in the damp molds of a bottomland timber. There's nothing that can brighten your eyes and lighten your step like a mess of butter-fried morels and fresh fiddler catfish."

Up On the River is vintage John Madson, which is to say, a very good book for anyone with an interest in the outdoors or a taste for the well-turned phrase—

Chris Madson.

ON THE GROUND

DEPARTMENT PROJECTS ON BEHALF OF WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS

State agencies drop fences for wild animals

LURAY PARKER/WG&F

The Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) is joining with the Game and Fish and Agriculture departments to ease the problem of right-of-way fencing blocking wildlife migration during winter.

Game animals, particularly antelope, can get trapped at fence lines during storms and be prevented from reaching areas where they can better survive severe weather.

A combination of cold temperatures and deep snow makes it difficult for antelope, which rarely jump fences, to go under the bottom fence wire, so herds tend to pack together against the fence.

Earlier than usual severe cold and heavy snow have already created problems in the Sybille Canyon and Opal areas this year.

Up to 800 antelope were stacked up in early November on the south side of Wyoming Highway 34 about two miles east of the U.S. Highway 30 junction north of Laramie. Through the teamwork of rancher Allen Cook, WYDOT, and Game and Fish, fence gates were dropped last November 7 to allow the migrating animals to reach their winter range.

On November 17, WYDOT gave Game and Fish permission to drop fence gates where 300 to 400 antelope were congregated on the west side of Wyoming Highway 240 about twelve miles north of Opal.

"Not only was John Eddins (WYDOT district engineer in Rock Springs) eager to help out the antelope in this situation, he told us he'd help out any way he could if any other problems arose," says Bill Rudd, Game and Fish wildlife management coordinator in Green River.

WYDOT and Game and Fish have had a working agreement for the past four years for dropping fences to deal with such situations, and officials met again recently to review the plan.

The two agencies are developing a critical calling list of people to contact if quick action is needed to drop a fence. The Department of Agriculture will serve as a liaison with the agencies and private landowners.

"We don't want to do anything without contacting folks with private interests in the areas," says WYDOT Director Sleeter C. Dover. "We want them involved in the solution to these problems. We have procedures in place, but the intent is to deal with the problem as informally as possible, because we don't want to create a new bureaucracy."

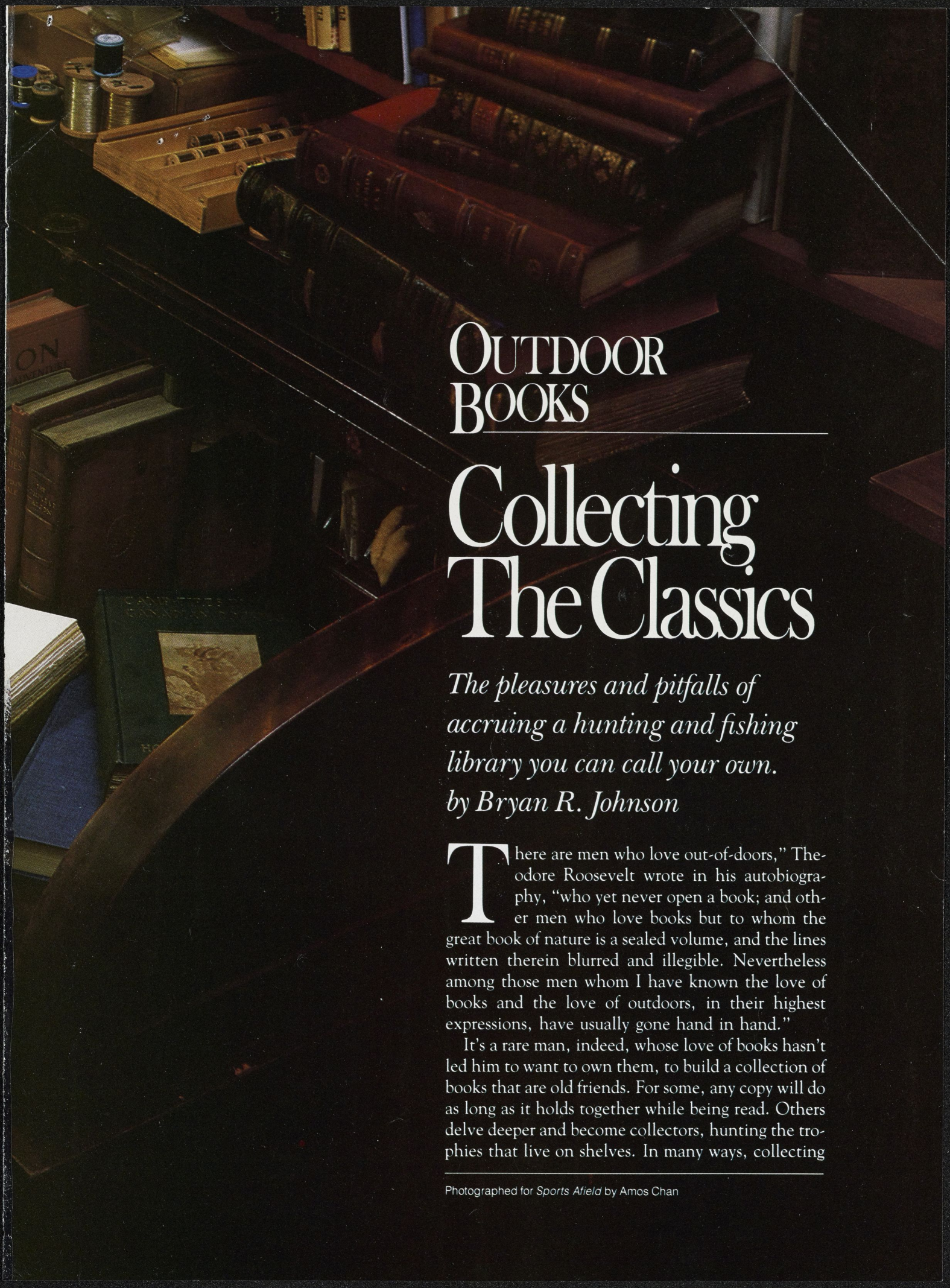
Department of Agriculture spokesman Don Christianson says ranchers and farmers continue to play an important stewardship role by reporting to state officials whenever they notice wildlife along fence lines.

WYDOT state maintenance engineer Ken Shultz says, if the problems are handled quickly, antelope usually move on soon after the fences are dropped, so the barriers are down only a short period of time.

"No one wants to see massive numbers of game animals dead along the highways," Shultz says.

However, there is no fence design that will allow every kind of wildlife to cross under all conditions, Shultz says, so a coordinated effort is needed to respond to unavoidable problems as they develop.

WYDOT has installed lay-down fences in known problem areas. The fences have a release mechanism allowing a section of fence to be dropped quickly and easily.



OUTDOOR BOOKS

Collecting The Classics

The pleasures and pitfalls of accruing a hunting and fishing library you can call your own.

by Bryan R. Johnson

There are men who love out-of-doors," Theodore Roosevelt wrote in his autobiography, "who yet never open a book; and other men who love books but to whom the great book of nature is a sealed volume, and the lines written therein blurred and illegible. Nevertheless among those men whom I have known the love of books and the love of outdoors, in their highest expressions, have usually gone hand in hand."

It's a rare man, indeed, whose love of books hasn't led him to want to own them, to build a collection of books that are old friends. For some, any copy will do as long as it holds together while being read. Others delve deeper and become collectors, hunting the trophies that live on shelves. In many ways, collecting

Photographed for *Sports Afield* by Amos Chan

books can be compared to hunting and fishing: It takes the patience of flyfishing, the skill of tracking and the speed of bowhunting. And when a trophy-class volume has been bagged, the joy can be just as great as that of landing a giant trout or taking an 8-point buck.

Collecting, as with hunting and fishing, is a matter of taste. What you collect, how much money you spend, and how much time you devote to it are entirely up to you. You can collect books by a single author, such as Theodore Roosevelt, gathering all of his works or just those on the outdoors. Or you can collect books on a specific subject; someone concentrating on bowhunting, for example, might collect volumes on American Indian bows and hunting techniques, the English bow or Fred Bear. Novels, too (such as James Willard Schultz's classic *With the Indians in the Rockies,* in which two young boys, alone and weaponless in the mountains during the winter, learn to arm themselves with homemade bows to survive), are a fine addition to any library.

A collector may also choose to gather books on a particular animal. Hunting the rhinoceros by way of books, for example, could take you from Conrad Gesner's *Historiae Animalium* of 1551 (which includes a beautiful woodcut by Albrecht Dürer), through Sir Winston Churchill's *My African Journey* (1908), to the more scientific *The Wild Mammals of Malaya and Offshore Islands, Including Singapore* by Lord Medway (1969).

Another approach is to collect books on a specific geographic area. Hunting and fishing in the northern Rockies is a subject that can provide a lifetime of collecting pleasure. On a smaller scale, there are enough books on the Serengeti to make a good-size collection.

Although the subject of the book may be one reason to collect it, the physical appearance of the volume can be appreciated as well. Early leather bindings, 19th-century cloth bindings decorated with gold and color illustrations, and even some 20th-century dust jackets make attractive displays on bookshelves. A collection needn't be restricted to older books, either; some current publications deserve space on a collector's shelves, particularly if they are finely printed limited editions. A strikingly beautiful example is *The Sporting Fishes of the British Isles.* Published by Chevington Press in an edition limited to 100 copies, the book includes hand-printed etchings of fishes that are common to the British Isles on large sheets of handmade paper, with the text printed on letterpress.

You may collect books by a favorite author; on a particular animal; or about a specific geographic area.

Everyone has his own style of collecting. You may go all out and include every title that even mentions the subject you're interested in, or amass only the most important books. Be warned, though, that few collectors ever "complete" their library. Much of the pleasure of book collecting, like that of hunting and fishing, is in the act as well as in the trophy. However you decide, the best way to begin collecting is to begin.

Bookdealers

Start haunting a few bookstores that specialize in the outdoors or that at least have good sections on the subject. One way to find bookstores in your area is to look in the yellow pages under "Book Dealers, Used & Rare." Call up a few places and ask them if they deal in books on the outdoors. Don't be afraid to browse; in bookstores you can look all day, not buy a thing, and still come out ahead.

Don't limit yourself to local dealers, either. There is a national organization of bookdealers called the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (ABAA) that issues a membership directory complete with 400 listed dealers, an index by specialty and another by location. Call or write, and they'll be happy to send you a free copy. Another source of information is *AB Bookman's Yearbook,* published in two parts. Part one has a list of dealers, including some not mentioned in the ABAA directory. It costs $10, but almost every large library has a copy you can look at. Finally, there are several magazines that are published specifically for book collectors. These are *Book Collector, American Book Collector* and, for those interested in fine, hand-printed limited-edition volumes, *Fine Print.* All of these include advertisements for dealers (addresses of these sources are listed at the end of the article).

Remember that dealers and bookstores that don't necessarily specialize in books on the outdoors may still have some books you'd want to own. If you're interested in books on African hunting, for example, a dealer who specializes in African art and anthropology may have a few safari books from the 19th century tucked away somewhere.

Pick a few dealers that look interesting, then write

(Continued on page 107)

Outdoor Books

(Continued from page 78)

them and ask to be placed on their mailing list. They'll be happy to have a new customer and rarely charge for their catalogs (although they will often drop you from their mailing list if you don't buy any books from them in a year or two). If you already know what you want to collect, mention it to them and ask them to keep a lookout for anything that falls within that subject.

Shop around and look at as many dealers' catalogs as you can. I've found it extremely beneficial to deal regularly with one or two stores. It takes time, though; you don't so much choose a dealer as discover one.

Auctions

Auctions are another source for good books. Three of the largest and most active auction houses in the United States are Sotheby's, Christie's and Swann's. Although the first two are well known for selling very expensive art and antiques (including the occasional Gutenberg Bible), they also have books that sell for reasonable prices. Every once in a while they have an auction devoted to books on the outdoors (usually titled "Sporting Books"), and other sales often include books of interest to outdoor collectors. They do charge for their catalogs (which are usually worth keeping as reference works), but they send out free schedules of upcoming sales from which you can order only those catalogs that interest you.

The catalogs have estimates for what the books will sell for (or "fetch," in auction parlance), but these are not always accurate. You should bid only what you feel the book is worth. Remember that in addition to the knockdown price, you will also have to pay a percentage to the house, plus sales tax (if the auction is held in your state or if you pick the book up in person), *plus* packing and shipping charges if they send the book to you. Even with all of these extra costs, it is possible to get a bargain through auction—as long as you're careful and don't get carried away by the excitement of the moment. If you are unable to attend the auction, most houses have a system of mail bids whereby you send in a form stating the maximum amount you wish to bid.

Unless you have had experience at auctions, however, you might want to consider having a book dealer act as your agent. The dealer will handle the paperwork, examine the book, advise you on the maximum amount you should pay, and get the book to you. He'll charge for this service, of course (usually about 10 percent of the auction price), but only if the bid is successful.

Prices

According to the theory of free enterprise, something is "worth" what someone is willing to pay for it. Bookselling is about as pure a form of free enterprise as there is these days. A book's rarity and condition enter into the pricing, but otherwise it's a matter of what the market will bear.

Just because a book is sold by a rare book dealer or in an auction, don't assume that it will be particularly expensive. You can buy good books for $10, or you can spend thousands; it all depends on your taste (and your pocketbook).

It is sometimes useful to know what a copy has sold for in the past, and this information is readily available in *Bookman's Price Index* and *American Book Prices Current*, both annual publications. The first title indexes hundreds of bookdealers' catalogs. For example, if you want to know what Theodore Roosevelt's *African Game Trails* sold for recently, the 1984 volume will tell you that a dealer listed it in his catalog that year for $40. *American Book Prices Current* gives auction prices.

Condition greatly affects prices. A clean copy of a book, in good shape, will obviously be worth more than a dirty, battered one. A copy with an original dust jacket (if it was published with one) will be worth more than one without the jacket. If the copy was signed by the author or owned by someone famous, the price will increase.

In the past five years or so there has been a lot written about collecting books as an investment. Frankly, investing in books is like hunting grizzlies with a club: It's dangerous, and there are easier ways to do it. You *can* make money with books, of course—hundreds of bookdealers do just that—but remember that you are buying at retail and, if you sell, you'll be selling wholesale. As a collector, you should think twice about making a "pure" investment. Buy books that you like and that you can appreciate for themselves.

Condition

How you feel about the condition of a book is purely a matter of taste. Some people demand that their books be pristine, while others don't really care if they've been rebound in a library binding. The finer the condition you request, the more you'll probably pay.

Whether or not you seek the finest possible condition in books you buy, you should know how bookdealers describe them. Dealers' and auction catalogs vary regarding the amount of description they devote to a single book. They also vary to some degree in their terminology.

The basic, stripped-down description giving an overall view of the title is usually a term such as "very good" or "fine." Unless the terms used in the catalog are defined therein, assume that "good" describes a copy that is a bit battered but is not in very bad shape. "Poor" is more of a

Northlake

Northlake Boot Co.
Franklin, Tennessee

Available at these Fine Stores.

ALABAMA
Bay Minette — Strong's Department Store
Clanton — Chicago Sales
Cullman — Werner Shoes
Ensley — Nirens
Fairfield — Keith Hardware
Florence — Bill's Shoes & Boots
Haleyville — J & J Army Surplus
Leeds — The Pants Store
New Market — McCord's Boot Barn
Northport — Wharf Army & Navy
Summiton — Handley Repair & Boot Store
Town Creek — McCaig's Factory Outlet
Tuscaloosa — City Shoe Repair

ARIZONA
Flagstaff — J.C. Penney
Flagstaff — Pennies Ace Hardware
Payson — Payson Place
Show Low — Crossroads Bootery
Tucson — Bob's Bargain Barn
Tucson — Sloanes Enterprises d/b/a Millers Surplus

CALIFORNIA
Livermore — Dom's Surplus
Napa — Brewster's
Nevada City — Deer Creek Mining Company
Placerville — Cash Mercantile
Sacramento — Metropolitan Stores
Santa Rosa — Roseland Shoe Mart
Truckee — Truckee Surplus
Ukiah — Ukiah Boot Company

COLORADO
Delta — The Footworks
Englewood — Western Trading
Woodland Park — Lanes

CONNECTICUT
Berlin — Mickey Finns
Bridgeport — Jimmy's Army & Navy
Bridgeport — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Bristol — Irving's Army & Navy
Danbury — New England Uniform Supply
East Hartford — Seaparks Department Store
Fairfield — Fairfield Trading Post
Farmington — J.C. Penney
Hamden — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Hartford — Sam's Army & Navy
New Milford — Save-On-Shoes
Norwalk — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Old Saybrook — Kay's Shoes
Stratford — Liberty Army & Navy
Waterbury — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
West Hartford — Center Army & Navy

DELAWARE
Wilmington — Wear-Guard Work Clothes

FLORIDA
Lake City — Army Surplus Store
Palmetto — Smith's Department Store

GEORGIA
Blairsville — Lynn's General Store
Conyers — Bobby Fritz
Cuthbert — Top Bait & Tackle, Inc.
Ellijay — Penlands
Fitzgerald — Fitzgerald Shoe Hospital
Rockmart — The Sports Hut
Swainsboro — The Work Place
Washington — Story's Department Store
Woodbury — Footwear For All

IDAHO
Boise — Koppel's Browseville
Buhl — Guy's Shoe Store
Coeur D'Alene — Army-Navy Store
Idaho Falls — C-A-L Stores
Lewiston — Army-Navy Economy Store
Lewiston — Lewiston Tire & Ranch Supply
Twin Falls — Economy Shoes
Twin Falls — H. Koppel Company
Twin Falls — The Merc of Twin Falls

ILLINOIS
Chicago — Pierzynskis Shoes
Deerfield — R & L Shoes
Deerfield — Singer Shoes
Des Plaines — Square Deal Shoes
Mundelein — Cutler True Value
Olney — Pool's Bargain Center

INDIANA
Bedford — Big Blue Stores
Charleston — Big Blue Stores
Columbus — Big Blue Stores
Corydon — Big Blue Stores
Ft. Wayne — Spiece
Greenfield — Big Blue Stores
Lawrenceburg — Big Blue Stores
Madison — Big Blue Stores
Marion — Spiece
Martinsville — Martin's Shoes
Plymouth — Big Blue Stores
Richmond — Big Blue Stores
Seymour — Big Blue Stores
Shelbyville — Big Blue Stores
Terre Haute — Tromp & Tread
Vincennes — Big Blue Stores
Vincennes — Eaton Shoe Repair
Wabash — Spiece
Washington — Big Blue Stores
W. Lafayette — Trader Horn Company

KANSAS
Kansas City — Mickey's
Kansas City — Van's Shoes
Ottawa — Town & Country

KENTUCKY
Grayson — Economy Shoes
Louisville — Grizzly Creek Outfitters

LOUISIANA
Pineville — Moore's Family Shoes

MAINE
Brewer — Marden's Shoes
Fairfield — Marden's Shoes
Lewiston — Marden's Shoes
Portland — Marden's Shoes
Portland — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Rockland — Tuttle Shoe Barn
Skowhegan — Griffin's
Windham — Sebago Trading Post
York Corner — Cliff's Bootery

MARYLAND
Hancock — Hendershot's Sptg. Inc.
Mountain Lake Park — Shoeland

MASSACHUSETTS
Allston — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Belmont — Dittos Shoes
Braintree — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Burlington — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Cambridge — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Clinton — Mellow's Army & Navy
Dedham — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Dennisport — Factory Shoe Mart
East Brookfield — Brookfield Factory Outlet
Framingham — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Hudson — Webster's
Ipswich — Hills of Ipswich
Lowell — Thorndike Factory Outlet
Lowell — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Mashpee — Factory Shoe Mart
Maynard — Maynard Outdoor Store
Natick — Natick Outdoor Store
Northampton — I Fine Inc.
North Reading — Abbott Factory Shoe Outlet
Norwell — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Randolph — Brodil's Bootery
Readville — The Company Store
Salem — Jerry's
Saugus — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Seekonk — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Shrewsbury — Knapp Shoes
Shrewsbury — Spag's Supply Inc.
Springfield — Fred's Shoes
Taunton — Sneakers & Stuff
Taunton — St. Pierre Shoes
Wareham — Guerras Footwear
West Bridgewater — Mr. Sneakers
West Newton — Republic Company
West Springfield — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Worcester — Wear-Guard Work Clothes

MICHIGAN
Berkley — Surplus City
Dearborn — Harry's Army Surplus
Mason — Mason Bargain Store
Mt. Clemens — Ark Surplus
Mt. Clemens — Astro Surplus
Mt. Pleasant — Tom's Shoe Repair
Port Huron — Wakeen Shoes
Wayne — Surplus City

MINNESOTA
Anoka — Jack's of Anoka
Brooklyn Center — Michael's Shoes & Repair
Brooklyn Center — United Stores
Burnsville — United Stores
Circle Pine — The Fair Inc.
Coon Rapids — United Stores
Crookston — Fleet Dist. Supply
Detroit Lakes — A & T Supply Company
Dilworth — Archie's Place
Duluth — J.C. Penney
Duluth — Minnesota Surplus
E. Grand Forks — T-N-T Outlet, Inc.
Elk River — Johnson's Department Store
Fridley — United Surplus Store
Grand Rapids — Glen's Army & Navy
Grand Rapids — L & M Supply Company
Hallock — Bakken's Boots
Hibbing — L & M Supply Company
Highland Park — United Stores
Hopkins — United Stores
Jackson — Bob's Fleet Supply
Little Falls — Fleet Dist. Supply
Minneapolis — Robert's Shoe Store
Minnetonka — United Stores
Monticello — Johnson's Department Store
Princeton — Jeff's Outlet
Richfield — United Stores
Robbinsdale — Schuler's Discount Shoes
Roseville — United Stores
St. Cloud — United Stores
St. Paul — United Stores
Virginia — Virginia Surplus Store
West St. Paul — United Stores

MISSISSIPPI
Boonville — Jane's Shoe Repair
Durvis — Western Auto
Grenada — Charles Conerly Shoes
Jackson — Discount Hunting & Fishing
Kosciusko — Parker's Shoe Shop
Laurel — Hezekiah's
Meridian — K-Bar-C
Pontotoc — Shoe Village

MISSOURI
Blue Springs — Feldman's
Camdenton — Leather Sole
Carthage — Carthage Farm & Home
Florissant — Markenson's Shoes
Harrisonville — B.J.'s Shoe Emporium
Harrisonville — Family Center
Independence — Workingham's
Jefferson City — House of Bargains
Joplin — Boots & More
Joplin — J.C. Penney
Joplin — Walt's Shoes
Lebanon — D & L Self Service Shoes
Odessa — Feldman's
Perryville — Buchheit Inc. Farm & Home
Perryville — Lorenz Shoes
Sikeston — Homestead Farm & Home
Springfield — Race Brothers Farm Supply
St. Joseph — Town & Country
St. Louis — Gravois Bootery
Wentzville — Charlie's Farm & Home
West Plains — Richard Brothers
West Plains — Western Farm & Home
Windsor — Vincent's Shoes

MONTANA
Baker — Anfinson's
Bozeman — Bozeman Army & Navy
Butte — Miller's Shoe Store
Glendive — Anfinson's
Hamilton — General Surplus Company
Kalispell — Kalispell Army & Navy Store, Inc.
Missoula — Army & Navy Economy
Missoula — Sportsman Surplus

NEVADA
Carson City — Lloyd Gotchy Shoes
Winnemucca — Burdette's

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Hudson — Scottie Shoe Outlet
Manchester — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Pittsfield — Barney's Clothing
Plymouth — Salibas
Portsmouth — Cliff's Bootery

NEW JERSEY
Bloomfield — Economy Self Service Shoes Inc.
Burlington — Kay Mfg. (Gregory's)
Camden — Garden State Surplus
Cedar Run — Green Sales Inc.
Columbus — Jay & El Shoes
Denver — Weaver's Store Inc.
Deptford — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Elizabeth — Manning's
Farmingdale — Collingwood Park Shoes
Greenbrook — Mr. C. T A Thom McAn
Hackensack — Prozy's Army & Navy
Hillsborough — Mr. C. Shoes
Irvington — Joe's Army & Navy Store
Jersey City — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Kearny — TSS-Seedman's
Keyport — LaConte Work Shoes
Lanoka Harbor — Salemi's Shoe Store
Linden — Julien's Army & Navy Inc.
Linden — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Lodi — The Sneaker Man
Middlesex — Middlesex Army & Navy Store
Millville — Frank's Men's & Boy's Store
Mount Holly — Kay Mfg. (Gregory's)
Newton — Go West Army & Navy
Ocean — Bob Kislin's
Ocean City — Leon's Men's Shop
Paramus — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Pennsauken — I. Goldberg Mgmnt. Corp.
Pleasantville — Bob Kislin's
Pleasantville — Fazio Shoes
Pleasantville — The Hub
Point Pleasant — Bill's Work Clothing Store
Pompton Lakes — Wecht's Inc.
Saddlebrook — Towne Bootery
Sayreville — Greenfield's Sayreville
Shorthills — Bill's Army & Navy
Shrewsbury — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Somerville — Somerville Enterprises Inc.
Toms River — Bob Kislin's
Trenton — Ewing Bazaar
Union — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Vineland — Bernie's Army & Navy Store
Wall Township — Bill's Work Clothing Store
Woodbury — Polsky's Army & Navy Store

NEW MEXICO
Espanola — Shoeworks
Hobbs — Workhorse Boots & Jeans

NEW YORK CITY
Astoria — Bar-Ted Army & Navy Store
Babylon — TSS-Seedman's
Bayside — Bell Army & Navy
Bethpage — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Bohemia — TSS-Seedman's
Bronx — Buck's Work Clothes
Bronx — Cedar Dale Army & Navy
Bronx — Dr. Jay's
Bronx — F & J Uniforms
Bronx — Frank's Sport Shop
Bronx — H & Y Sportswear
Bronx — Harry's Army & Navy
Bronx — Joe's Army & Navy
Bronx — Macho Men's Clothes
Bronx — Rog Tuckman
Bronx — Rosa's Dry Goods
Bronx — Tiger Kims
Bronx — TSS-Seedman's
Bronx — UNI Shoes
Bronx — Varsity
Bronx — Webster Footwear
Brooklyn — Dr. Jay's
Brooklyn — Triangle Stores
Brooklyn — TSS-Seedman's
Brooklyn — Wagner, Carl & Son
Centereach — Centereach Work & Play
Coram — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Corona — Gordon's Army & Navy Store
Elmont — TSS-Seedman's
Elmont — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Flushing — Galaxy Army & Navy
Flushing — Joe's Army & Navy
Freeport — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Glen Cove — Sneaker Stop
Hempstead — Hempstead Outdoor Store
Hempstead — TSS-Seedman's
Hicksville — Goldman's
Huntington — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Jackson Heights — Brown's Bargain Store
Jamaica — Central Men's Shop
Jamaica — Perry's Shoes
Lawrence — TSS-Seedman's
Levittown — TSS-Seedman's
Lindenhurst — Bell Army & Navy
Long Island City — King Boulevard
Melville — TSS-Seedman's
Merrick — Merrick Factory Outlet
Merrick — Robinhood Surplus
Middle Island — TSS-Seedman's
Middle Village — TSS-Seedman's
New York City — ABC Army & Navy
New York City — Camptown Army & Navy
New York City — Clark's
New York City — Hudson's Recreational Sports Ltd.
New York City — Joe's Army & Navy
New York City — Leaders Men's Shop
New York City — Physical
New York City — Soho Surplus
New York City — 59th Street Men's Store
Oceanside — TSS-Seedman's
Peekskill — Gene's Army & Navy
Port Chester — Levine Brothers
S. Richmond Hill — Marty's Discount City
Staten Island — Nathan Army & Navy
Staten Island — Steakman's Sporting Goods

NEW YORK STATE
Batavia — Ritchlin's Shoe Store
Beacon — Sneakers To Boots
Brockport — Workingman's Store
Buffalo — Washington Surplus Center
Chittenango — Waldman's Dept. Store
Cobleskill — Wohl's Dept. Store
Cortland — Elson's
Depew — Lancaster Depew Surplus Center
Fulton — Seibel's Shoe Store
Ilion — Wagner Shoes
Kenmore — Lattimer's Shoes
Lackawanna — Pohl's Shoes
Latham — Grassland Equipment & Irrigation
Lockport — Lockport Surplus Center
Medina — Mark & Dale Apparrel
Poughkeepsie — Gene's Army & Navy
Schenectady — Bi-Mor Government Surplus
Schenectady — Rudnick
Yorkshire — The Outdoorsman

NORTH CAROLINA
Asheboro — The Big Deal Inc.
Asheville — Carolina Enterprise of Asheville
Asheville — Discount Shoes
Benson — Billy Byrde Shoes
Boone — Hunt's Department Store
Charlotte — Lebo's Inc. of Charlotte
Chimney Rock — Nelon Army & Navy
Greenville — White Stores Inc.
Lexington — Army & Navy Store
Monroe — Long's Sporting Goods
Mt. Airy — M & W Outlet
Pilot Mountain — Clyde W. Fulk Clothier
Raleigh — Man-Mur Shoe Shop
Sylva — Queen's Discount Shoes
Valle Crucis — The Mast General Store
Willow Springs — Olive's Cash Service Center
Winston-Salem — Trivittes Inc.

NORTH DAKOTA
Bismarck — Sandvig's Inc.
Dickinson — Anfinson's
Fargo — Nodak Stores
Grand Forks — Home of Economy
Hettinger — Anfinson's
Jamestown — A & T Supply Inc.
Wahpeton — Fancy Feet
Williston — Home of Economy of Williston

OHIO
Cincinnati — Edwards' Shoes
Cincinnati — Jim & Chuck Shoe Repair
Cincinnati — Marmer's Shoes
Columbus — J.C. Penney
Columbus — Topper Surplus World
Dayton — General Surplus
Kings Island — Manufacturers' Outlet, Ltd.
Lima — J.C. Penney
Lorain — Cane's Surplus Store
Marietta — Workingman's Store
Mogadore — J.P. Heil Enterprises
Morrow — Bowman Clothing
Mount Hope — Marty's Leather Shop
Oregon — Woodville Road Surplus
Portsmouth — West End Shoe Mart
Ravenna — B & B Industries
Springfield — Whitehall Sports
Sullivan — Northern Ohio Raw Fur
Warren — Mickey's Army & Navy
Waynesville — Stage Coach Boot Depot
Xenia — Sol's Store
Zanesville — J.C. Penney

OREGON
Molalla — Molalla Shoe Store
Seaside — Debra's Surplus

PENNSYLVANIA
Allentown — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Denver — Weaver's Store Inc.
Doylestown — Rudolph's Inc.
East Earl — Goods Store
Erie — Marshall Shoes
Gilbertsville — Howard Merkle
Glenolden — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Hillsgrove — Renninger's Country Store
Montgomeryville — SK Outfitters
Paoli — Marwyn Shoes
Peach Bottom — Goods Store
Philadelphia — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Roherstown — Shoe Shack
Williamsport — Mike's Place

RHODE ISLAND
Cranston — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Providence — Wear-Guard Work Clothes
Warren — Jamiel's Shoe World

SOUTH CAROLINA
Anderson — Grady's Sport Shop
Chesterfield — Pusser's Department Store
Iva — Brown 5 & 10 Variety
Landrum — Service Shoe Shop & Store
York — Ferguson & Youngblood
York — McGill's Store

SOUTH DAKOTA
Aberdeen — Sandvig's Inc.

TENNESSEE
Kingsport — R & J Shoes
Nashville — Friedman's Inc.

TEXAS
Dallas — Shooting Sports
Garland — C & C Trading
Jacksonville — Discount City
Sherman — Gibson Products
Winnsboro — Army & Navy Store

UTAH
Ogden — Smith & Edwards
Orem — Bob's Army & Navy
Payson — Christensen's
Provo — Modern Shoe Repair
Provo — Reams Boots & Jeans
Salt Lake City — Allied Development Company
Salt Lake City — National Army-Navy
Sandy — Allied Development Company
Springville — Christensen's
Tooele — Allied Development Company
Tooele — Christensen's
Vernal — Christensen's

VERMONT
Barre — Harry's
Burlington — Adam's Boots & Shoes
Burlington — Hills of Burlington
St. Albans — Rayes Shoe Store
St. Johnsbury — Caplan's Army Store

VIRGINIA
Abingdon — Morrell's Shoe Store Inc.
Front Royal — Alvin B. Stoke's General Store
Luray — Page Co-op Farm Bureau
Winchester — Workingman's Store

WASHINGTON
Battle Ground — John's Clothing
Bremerton — Mr. Boots
Chehalis — Sunbird Shopping Center
Chehalis — Yardbirds
Enumclaw — Jayhawk's
Moses Lake — Cenex Service
Seattle — Chubby & Tubby Store
Seattle — The Hub Stores of Oregon d/b/a Tri North Department Store
Spokane — General Store Inc.
Tacoma — B & I Shoe Department
Wenatchee — Stan's Merry Mart
Yakima — Mallot's Western

WEST VIRGINIA
Rainelle — Aides Discount Shoe

WISCONSIN
Milwaukee — Irv's
Stevens Point — Point Surplus Store
Superior — Northwest Outlet

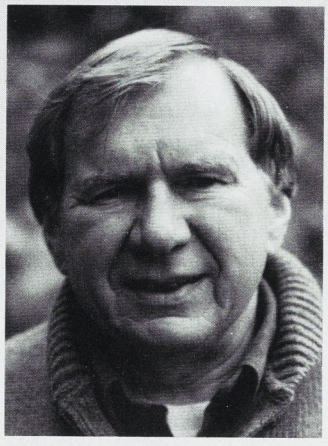
Toward Higher Ground

In "the old days" there simply wasn't much in the way of scientific publications of use to anglers.

Robert J. Behnke

IN THE AUTUMN 1989 ISSUE OF ***TROUT***, Robert H. Berls described his selection of the 15 most influential books on trout fishing published in the last 30 years. This stimulated some thought on my part as to how scientific literature has influenced American angling literature.

The first point to be noted is that the availability of scientific literature to anglers and to authors of angling literature is a relatively recent phenomenon. In "the old days" there simply wasn't much in the way of scientific publications of use to anglers. The second point that became apparent to me is the decisive role of "interpretation": the ability of angling authors to exert their influence by accurate and perceptive synthesis of available information. An outstanding example of this phenomenon is that of Eugene Connett and his Derrydale Press, which laid the foundation for a new, significantly higher level of authenticity in the angling literature, leading to the high quality of some of the recent works cited by Berls.



Until the 1890's American angling literature knew only the brook trout, Atlantic salmon and lake trout...although each may have been regarded as several different species.

Influence can also result from a "breakthrough," attention-grabbing articles in the popular media.

Edward R. Hewitt became widely recognized as the "father" of American nymph fishing, even though he misinterpreted the scientific evidence and lacked an in-depth understanding of nymphs. Early American outdoor writers such as Frank Forester, Genio Scott and Thadeus Norris did not even have literature on which species of trout occurred in North America, must less sound information on feeding, ecology or environmental limitations. All they learned was from personal observation.

The first really influential piece of scientific literature was Samuel Latham Mitchill's *Fishes of New York*, first published in 1814. It is the first account of American fishes written by a native born American.

Sam Mitchill was a United States Senator and a professor at Columbia University. He was widely recognized as one of the most educated and knowledgeable persons in the country during the early 1800s. Mitchill was not an ichthyologist *per se*, but he realized that many of the common fish species with which he was familiar in the New York area were different from European species he knew. (He was educated in Scotland and was quite knowledgeable of European scientific works.) Mitchill founded a New York scientific society and stimulated the publication of numerous original American works, including his *Fishes of New York*. He realized that the brook trout, then abundant on Long Island, was a different species from the European brown trout and officially named it *Salmo fortinalis*. He named many new genera and species of American fishes such as the muskellunge, the striped bass, and numerous others. Although geographically limited and with numerous errors, Mitchill's work began the compilation of Ameri-

can fishes with scientific names.

After Mitchill, progress did not come swiftly. Knowledge of American fishes remained rudimentary for many years. J.V.C. Smith's 1833 book, *Natural History of the Fishes of Massachusetts,* set out to follow Mitchill, but Smith's book is an example of retrogression. Except for first hand accounts of fishing for brook trout on Cape Cod, which makes interesting historical reading, Smith borrowed from the European literature and largely fabricated his list of fish species.

Recognizing the abysmal state of American ichthyology, Louis Agassiz, about 1870, directed his brightest student, David Starr Jordan, to the study of American fishes. This culminated in the landmark four-volume work, *The Fishes of North and Middle America* (1896-1900), by Jordan and B.W. Evermann. With this work, angling authors had an authoritative reference to cite. The 1902 book by Dean Sage and others, *Salmon and Trout,* essentially followed the list of salmon and trout in Jordan and Evermann's book with brief accounts for each "species."

Until the 1890s, American angling literature knew only the brook trout, Atlantic salmon and lake trout as American salmonids, although each may have been regarded as several different species. The western salmonids – the cutthroat trout, rainbow trout and Pacific salmons – were virtually unknown to the world.

To demonstrate the relatively recent phenomenon of the influence of entomological literature on the literature of fly fishing, some of the books cited by Bob Berls with their in-depth knowledge of aquatic insects and their biology and distribution, could be contrasted to what was available to Theodore Gordon around the turn of the century.

Gordon adapted from British traditions. British tradition was influenced by an early semi-scientific treatise, the 1836 classic by Alfred Ronalds, *The Fly-fishers Entomology,* which is an outstanding work for its time. The noted writers on fly fishing in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries such as Gordon, Halford and Skues used a practical, common sense approach by observing what organisms trout had in their stomachs to understand trout feeding habitats. They did not have access to comprehensive information on the classification, distribution, and biology of aquatic invertebrates. Nor were data from large-scale studies comparing abundance of invertebrate species in the substrate and in the drift to trout feeding habits over long periods of time and in many different streams.

How such information came to be incorporated into the literature of fly fishing is an interesting story that requires some embellishment on stories told to me long ago by the late Paul R. Needham.

The popularization – and gross oversimplification – of Needham's data by Edward R. Hewitt resulted in Hewitt's often being hailed as the father of American nymph fishing. Although Hewitt was no "father" to nymph fishing (he had only a crude understanding of "nymphs" as a category of aquatic invertebrates), he wrote two feature articles in 1933 in *Field & Stream.* In these articles Hewitt expressed the notion that nymph fishing was so deadly, he hesitated to disclose its secrets because skilled anglers using nymphs could "clean out" a stream. Such a clean-out-a-stream fishing technique is a real headliner for the popular fishing media. Hewitt was a great authority figure; others writing for popular angling magazines propagandized the "deadly" nymph. Thus the popularity of nymph fishing increased at a greatly accelerated rate.

Paul Needham's father, James. G., was America's most famous aquatic entomologist at Cornell University. I suspect that the father, James, coaxed his son, Paul, who was an ardent fly fisher, into a Ph.D. program by pointing out the ideal research project: a quantitative study of aquatic invertebrates correlated with trout feeding habits.

Much of the research was conducted during the late 1920s as part of the New York State Conservation Department's biological surveys of various river systems. Needham intensively sampled aquatic invertebrates, mainly insects, correlating abundance through time with various habitat types and in different streams. He set fine mesh nets in the water column to sample the species and abundance of organisms that occurred in the drift (underwater) and on the surface. He then examined trout stomachs to compare their diet with what occurred in the drift and on the surface.

Needham published his data in State Conservation Department reports and presented his findings at a 1928 National Game Conference. These studies are summarized in Needham's book, *Trout Streams,* first published in 1938. Evidently, Hewitt became aware of Needham's work and invited him to present a talk at the Anglers' Club of New York. I do not recall the date when Needham visited New York as a guest of Hewitt, but it was during Prohibition because I clearly remember Needham's description of a Hewitt invention designed to age homemade whiskey 10 years in 30 days. It was not a success.

Hewitt, however, grossly oversimplified Needham's data – "80% of trout's diet consists of nymphs." Actually, the "80%" only referred to the proportion of the diet taken beneath the surface, all of which are not "nymphs," and only to specific situations at specific times. Needham, for example, published a paper on the food of brown and rainbow trout in Convict Creek, California. Here, 90 percent of the diets consisted of snails and scuds (mollusks and crustacea) and 10 percent insects. If half of the insects were adults taken on the surface and half as nymphs or larvae taken underwater, then 95 percent of the diet was taken below the surface, but only five percent would be actual nymphs! Also, from the ratio of organisms *on the surface* to organisms in the drift compared to what trout actually consumed, a case could be made from Needham's data that dry fly fishing should be more effective than nymph fishing. For example, if 10 percent of the total "drift" occurred on the surface (adult insects) and 90 percent occurred underwater (nymphs and larvae), yet the trout's diet reflected 30 percent surface feeding and 70 percent underwater feeding, then organisms on the surface would be differentially selected by the trout at a 3:1 ratio compared to underwater drift.

Despite the misinterpretation and oversimplification of the scientific data, Hewitt did initiate a greatly increased interest in nymphs and nymph fishing. His early pontification ultimately led to the knowledgeable and sophisticated books available today.

etc.) mainly preyed on nongame fishes and other forms of life with game fishes making up only a relatively small percentage of their diet. Hewitt's article was entitled "Fish-eating birds have no place in trout waters." He wrote: "I have seen herons clean out a stream a mile long so that there was not a dozen trout left in it in two months where there were 1000 at the beginning of the season." No data were presented to support this statement. Simply that it was made by The Authority and therefore is true. Hewitt was not recommending complete extermination of fish-eating birds (although they were "useless"), only that they should be removed from trout waters (there were enough warmwater fishes to keep them going elsewhere).

Given Hewitt's dogmatic views on trout and trout fishing, I assume that Eugene Connett surmised that Hewitt was not the type of author to produce authoritative, influential literature for Derrydale Press.

The first Derrydale book was Henry Ingraham's *American Trout Streams*. The first 150 copies Connett published for the Anglers' Club (1926) with an additional 350 copies reprinted in 1926. Although the word "Derrydale" does not appear on Ingraham's book, Connett considered this work to be the first Derrydale book.

Ingraham's book was subtitled, "A discussion of the problems confronting anglers in the preservation, management and rehabilitation of American trout waters." It contains chapters on stream ecology, geology, forestry, pollution, food supply and spawning. This work was specifically designed to promote wild trout management as opposed to fisheries based on stocking hatchery fish. Ingraham wrote: "There is no sport to be had in catching hatchery fish soon after their introduction into a stream. American anglers do not wish to be butchers, nor do we wish our game set before us, merely to be the agency of their destruction... trout to furnish sport, must be wild from birth or infancy."

Ingraham was an engineer with no formal background in biology, only an intense interest in trout streams and a willingness to do his homework on the subject of natural history of trout streams. Considering Ingraham's background, and the limitations of what was available to him in the scientific literature of the time, *American Trout Streams* is a remarkable book.

Illustration by Lee Stroncek

Recognizing the need for an entomologically sound book for fly fishers, the Derrydale edition of Preston Jennings's *A Book of Trout Flies* was published in 1935. Unlike Ingraham's book, which remains virtually unknown and of limited influence, Jennings's book set a new standard for American fly fishing literature.

The prime example of Connett's amazing perception for finding skilled authors as interpreters of scientific literature is Roderick Haig-Brown's 1939 Derrydale book, *The Western Angler*. Haig-Brown's writing is probably the finest example of lay interpretation of salmonid taxonomy, biology and life history. He presented the information in the context of an appealing literary style of the highest standards.

Just how influential Eugene Connett and his Derrydale Press was in raising the standards of angling literature in authenticity and accurate interpretation of scientific literature can be observed by comparing what was passing as scientific angling literature at the time.

Charles Zibeon Southard published *The Evolution of Trout and Trout Fishing in America* (1928) and *A Treatise on Trout for the Progressive Angler* (1931). These books were considered to be the state of the art regarding scientific information.

They received rave reviews: "By all odds the best technical book on the subject I have ever seen"... "indispensable for the fly-fisherman"... "Mr. Southard has broken new ground...first American author to attempt anything like a scholarly examination of the whole trout situation in the United States."

Southard explained that he wrote these books because so little detailed knowledge of trout was available to anglers; most anglers hardly knew what species of trout existed, much less about their physiology, anatomy and life history. Thus the need for such books. Just how far angling literature has advanced in the past 60 years can be assessed by reading Southard's books.

His sage comments include advice to reverse the demise of eastern book trout "...by immediately inaugurating an effective method of rearing and planting hatchery bred trout of two years old size, and an honest and efficient warden service coupled with just and wise laws and regulations." On feeding habits: "The brook trout is not by nature, in any sense, an insect-eating fish, but is a carnivorous feeder the year round" (this was written after Needham's voluminous data on diets of trout species was available). On how to settle the debate over relative merits of dry fly versus wet fly fishing he recommends compiling a table of various categories, placing numerical values for each method under each category; the result is a tie. That settles that issue once and for all!

One might speculate that Southard learned his style from Hewitt and is an example of the student exceeding the master in the production of opinionated nonsense.

If Southard's books were regarded as the "state of the art" for scientific, technical literature on trout for anglers, I can understand why Eugene Connett perceived the need for Derrydale books: A new state of the art was desperately needed to direct angling literature toward higher ground.

Probably the most advanced and entomologically correct book after Ronalds's 1836 classic, was Preston Jennings's *A Book of Trout Flies* (Derrydale Press 1935). Contrasted with Hewitt, Jennings did all of his homework. He read and analyzed the scientific literature. He set a standard which markedly improved the quality of later literature on fly fishing.

Contrasting the roles of Hewitt and Jennings as interpreters of influential scientific literature for anglers brings up the subject of Derrydale Press and its founder, Eugene Connett. I would like to learn more about Connett and how he selected authors for his famous Derrydale books. He evidently had an amazingly keen interest in scientific literature as it applies to trout fishing (as seen in his own 1938 book, *Random Casts*) and a keen eye for authors as interpreters of scientific literature.

There was not much scientific literature useful for trout anglers back then. The American Fisheries Society began publication of *Transactions* in 1871, but until the 1920s and '30s most of the subject matter pertained to fish culture and stocking – there was not much interest in wild trout. Fisheries management, such as it was, was mainly based on the conventional wisdom of large-scale hatchery production, stocking and law enforcement.

Scanning the old journals reveals an occasional prophet appealing to reason and a higher morality.

In the 1901 *Transactions*, Dr. J.C. Parker published a paper, "Man as a controlling factor in aquatic life," challenging the conventional wisdom of indiscriminant stocking without any real understanding of results or ramifications. After the paper, the comments of the fish culturists were added, fiercely defending the status quo. It is ironic that one example cited, to prove the effectiveness of stocking hatchery fish, concerned the establishment of lake trout in Big Averill Pond, Vermont, where no lake trout existed prior to stocking. What did exist in Big Averill before the lake trout were introduced was one of only four native populations of Sunapee char, the southernmost relict population of Arctic char. The Sunapee char soon disappeared after the lakers became established – similar to their extinction in Dan Hole Pond and Sunapee Lake, New Hampshire, as a result of lake trout stocking. I think Dr. Parker, belatedly, had made his point.

Aldo Leopold appropriately published a paper in the 1918 transactions, "Mixing trout in western waters," in which he denounced the stocking of non-native trout species, particularly in the Rio Grande basin of New Mexico where they replaced the more beautiful native cutthroat trout–a crime against nature.

James Henshall had a paper in the 1919 *Transactions*: "Indiscriminate and inconsiderate planting of fish." By and large, however, Parker, Leopold, and Henshall were exceptions. The early "scientific" fishery literature reflects little of an understanding or appreciation of natural ecosystems and wild trout.

Perhaps it was this lack of sound information on trout streams and wild trout that stimulated Eugene Connett to establish Derrydale Press to publish influential literature.

A question has always remained in my mind concerning Connett's selection of authors: Why didn't Hewitt write a Derrydale? Both Connett and Hewitt were members of the Anglers' Club of New York and must have known each other quite well. I suspect that it was because Connett knew Hewitt very well that he realized Hewitt's limitations to fairly evaluate current literature. As the great authority figure, Hewitt knew it all. He was not about to be influenced by lesser men. Essentially he operated on "hubris." This extreme dogmatism of Hewitt can be seen in early issues of *The Progressive Fish Culturist.*

In a 1936 issue, number 16, Hewitt angrily responded to a previous article that claimed fish-eating birds (kingfishers, osprey, mergansers, herons, loons,

Never one to let uncertainty stand in the way of strong opinion, Edward R. Hewitt became known as the "father" of American nymph fishing, even though he misinterpreted the scientific evidence and lacked an in-depth understanding of nymphs.

Photo courtesy of the American Museum of Flyfishing