The Connecticut WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Bulletin

LIVE WITH THE LAND

Volume 15, No. 3 | Hartford, Connecticut | May-June 1969

CONSERVATION OFFICER CENTENNIAL ISSUE

State of Connecticut

QUI TRANSTULIT SUSTINET

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME

By Rep. Calchera of the 49th District

Resolved by this Assembly:

WHEREAS, the first Connecticut law to provide for the appointment of enforcement officers for the protection of wildlife resources became effective on June 21, 1869; and

WHEREAS, such protective duties are performed by men now designated as Conservation Officers of the Board of Fisheries and Game; and

WHEREAS, these officers have, over the intervening one hundred years, performed their services with dedication and efficiency so as to promote the well-being of this invaluable part of our natural environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of this assembly unite in extending their most sincere congratulations to Connecticut's Conservation Officers on the occasion of their one hundredth anniversary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the house and senate cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to Patrick J. Ward, Chairman of the Board of Fisheries and Game; Theodore B. Bampton, Director of the Board of Fisheries and Game and Leslie A. Williamson, Chief Conservation Officer of the Board of Fisheries and Game.

Charles N. McCollam, Jr.
Clerk of the Senate

Paul B. Groobert
Paul B. Groobert
Clerk of the House

Secretary of the State

The CONNECTICUT Wildlife Conservation BULLETIN

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Governor

Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

JOSEPH N. GILL
Commissioner

Published bi-monthly by the
Board of Fisheries and Game
Hartford
Commissioners

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IT'S THE LAW

Parents, take your child, or any child, fishing with you. If you actually assist the juvenile angler in fishing you'll need a license, but $4.35 is a small fee to pay for the benefits to him, and to you.

Bad or Indifferent–Which Is The Real Villain

The public attitude toward fish and game laws and regulations is as variable as the individual personalities that comprise the public. However, generally speaking the public attitude can be classified as good, bad, or indifferent in varying degrees. To understand these attitudes it is necessary to explore the general types or groups of people that represent this good, bad or indifferent attitude.

A good attitude is represented by that segment of the public consisting of those sportsmen and other people who display some or all of the following:

(1) An interest in and awareness of the law.
(2) A realization of the necessity and compliance to the laws and regulations.
(3) An un-selfish attitude toward our fellow man and wildlife species when in the field.
(4) A keen interest in securing new and better laws and regulations to cope with the dynamic changes of our growing economy as related to environmental factors and population pressures.
(5) A concern toward mis-conduct and un-sportsmanlike behavior.

These people possess a concerned attitude toward the protection and perpetuation of wildlife and wildlife habitat by their actions and words.

Although many sportsmen display a good attitude we must realize that the bad or poor attitude toward fish and game laws and regulations exists in the mind of the poacher or game hog. His type typifies a group of people who are only interested in their selfish desires. The poacher is a thief. He constantly steals from the public domain and circumvents the law in devious ways to satisfy his greed. He is an overt menace to laws and regulations that were designed for the good of the majority of the people, and for the intelligent protection and preservation of our wildlife heritage. The poacher is a constant reminder of the necessity for strict law enforcement and a need for more public concern and cooperation for the apprehension of this un-desirable individual.

These are two types of persons who represent the good and the poor attitude toward fish and game laws and regulations, but there exists a large and very important group of people with an indifferent or dis-interested attitude toward the laws that govern the present and future status of our wildlife and wildlife habitat. These people, by their very indifference allow or encourage the wasteful destruction of our natural environment. They are in most cases interested only in monetary gain, and show little or no interest for anything else. This attitude is presently concealed under the name of economic expansion or progress. Factories, various business establishments, apartment complexes, and housing developments are constantly being built or expanded with little thought in relation to the land and water they are destroying. Air and water are being polluted because it is more convenient and less costly to discharge waste in this manner than it is to provide adequate disposal systems to prevent it. This senseless, destructive onslaught will continue to worsen if construction projects and resultant pollution problems are not scrutinized to a greater degree as to their potential danger to the natural environment. The passing of time has demonstrated that the hand-slapping attitude of enforcement toward pollution abatement is insufficient; a system of stricter control, heavy fines, or stopping of operations is required to force compliance.

A segment of the population expresses an indifferent attitude toward fish and game laws and regulations because they do not associate with what is going on. If these people would personally associate with an oil spill, the senseless shooting of songbirds, a fish kill, a factory pouring industrial waste and sewage into a stream, or the theft of publicly-owned trout, they would realize that they are condoning an unnecessary menace that is threatening them with an unhealthy environment. This malignancy has tarnished the waters we drink, swim and fish in, and it has polluted the very air we breathe. Where and when will it end? This decision lies with those who care, react, and express concern over what is happening. The time is now, not tomorrow.

Robert Buyak, Conservation Officer II

On Lost Brant and Ice Cream Cones

By Bob Bolton

Outdoor Editor, New Haven Register & Journal-Courier

(ed. note: We wondered what an outsider, a sportsman, thought a Conservation Officer was and did so we asked the author, a well-known outdoor writer, if he would volunteer his thoughts. In his easily-recognizable style, Bob has admitted in this article to a lack of depth of knowledge on the subject. We hope that the remainder of the contents of this special issue will serve as an enlightenment to him and to the many others of you who may be similarly befuddled.)

If you asked the nearest fisherman what a Connecticut Conservation Officer is, or what he does, he would probably do a double take and say: "What's that?"

And if you explained that what you really meant was those "Game Wardens" the angler would probably reply—"Oh those guys, they just hang around and wait until they can find somebody who hasn't got a fishing license.

They also chase kids away from reservoirs, instead of leaving them be. Did it ever occur to them that a kid on a stream bank is worth two on the street corner smoking marijuana?"

I've often thought of what a Conservation Officer does, myself, but since, in my position, the less I know about their duties, the better off I am, I haven't been too eager to find out just what they are or do.

In the spring my most frequent telephone caller has one question: "When are *they* going to stock the Housatonic?"

Honestly I can answer, since the Conservation Officer doesn't tell me, that I don't know. But it does bring up the question: What do the Conservation Officers do between stream stockings?

You could be flippant in answering that question by saying they don't do anything. But the title belies that. Conservation Officer instead of Game Warden must stand for something. In a state that has high falutin' titles for just about everyone on the public payroll shows that someone in the F&G Department (The Board of Fisheries and Game—for example as one unusual title), had some thought about it. Game Warden is a common name for most of the other states' employes who lurk in the bushes looking for game and fish law violators. But not in Connecticut.

And they're surely a silent service too, just like the CIA. Their names can't be found in the telephone directory and if you want one to catch a beaver or trap a skunk you'll have a hard time locating him. But if you live-trap a wild animal and keep it in your home, sure enough one will show up one bright day and ask you some questions about it.

As a matter of fact most Conservation Officers, whether in Connecticut or Vermont or any other New England state are outnumbered enormously by the outdoor types that are their bane as well as their means of a livelihood. One that checked me out in Vermont last year was eating an ice-cream cone. He couldn't really believe me when I told him that I had caught a few trout but had released them.

"How many fish did you catch?" he asked between licks on the cone. I told him again.

"Didn't you keep any?" he repeated. The ice-cream cone was melting and he looked at it side-wise and licked a drip that almost got away.

"I told you," I said, "I threw them back in."

He ate the cone and peered into the back of my station wagon. He didn't really believe that a person would drive all the way from Connecticut to Vermont and catch a fish and throw it back in.

Another time I was duck hunting. Two conservation officers (of unknown nationality but I assume they were from Connecticut), came into view just as 10 brant were circling my decoys. It must be explained that in about 18 years of duck hunting on the Sound I have only been visited by brant ONCE. That was the exact moment when those two guys hove in view. The brant kept circling and the boat with wardens came nearer. Just when the brant decided that they would come within range, so did the wardens. It took a lot of restraint to keep from shooting. You know what direction I'm talking about.

I haven't seen a "conservation officer" since then, could be that's what the title means.

So the question what do those guys do when they aren't bugging hunters and fishermen might be appropos.

One thing they should do is to go to a school and learn the proper time to approach the potential law-breaker. After all the guy in the blind or in the stream helps pay his salary.

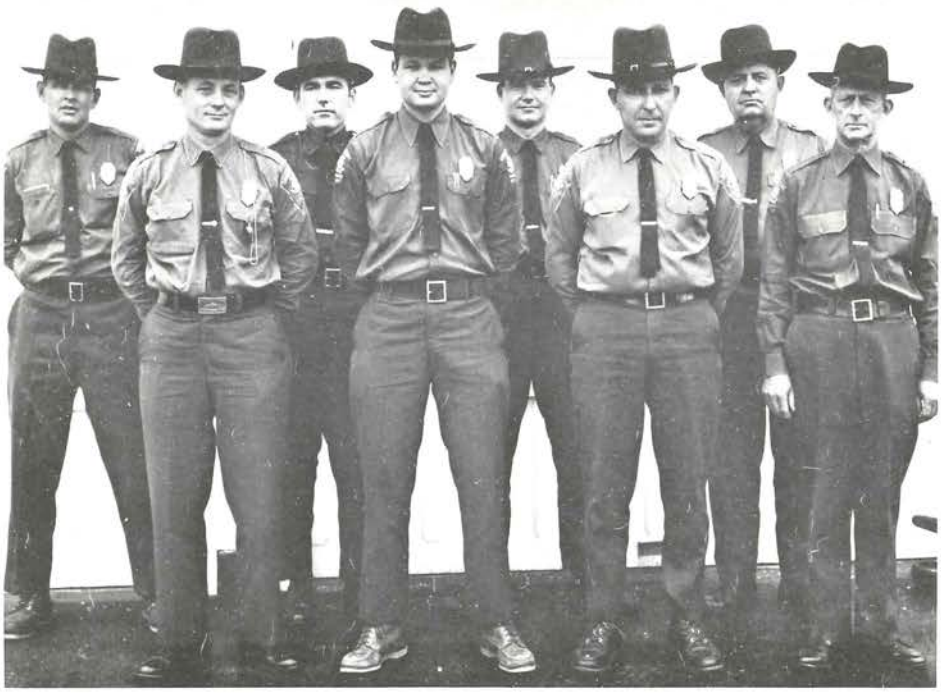
Director Bampton congratulates two recent retirees at a party given in their honor by their fellow fish and game workers. Honored were Charles Frank Rice, who served the department for 25 years, and Theodore Andersen, with 35 years service.

DISTRICT FIELD SERVICE PERSONNEL

For purposes of accomplishing field duties, Connecticut is divided into four Conservation Districts. They run generally north to south and are numbered from I-IV as they proceed from west to east. Supervisors of these districts are: I, William Sondrini; II, Howard Bluege; III, John Wood; IV, Harding Joray. Each district has assigned a fishery biologist, a game biologist, a complement of conservation officers and a small labor force. Also there is a marine section composed of three conservation officers and headed by Marine Biologist George Maltezos.

While most of these field personnel perform law enforcement duties and are sworn to do so, only Conservation Officers are shown in the pictures on these consecutive pages since this issue is devoted to them alone, on their 100th anniversary.

District I Conservation Officers. (l-r) Conservation Officer II Donald Deane; Conservation Officers I, Matthew Stevenson, Howard Carpenter, George Willis, Jr., Walter Kimball, Brian Johnson, Peter Begley, Eugene Beeman.



District II Conservation Officers. (l-r) Conservation Officer I Robert Muldoon; Conservation Officer II Frederick Pogmore; Conservation Officers I, William McNamara, George Roberts, Robert Aborn, Walter Oesterlin, Fred Stula, Robert White.

CONSERVATION OFFICERS NATION-WIDE

(Ed. Note: The following information was supplied by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.)

There are currently 5,448 full-time, salaried officers employed by the States to enforce the criminal laws and regulations protecting fish and wildlife resources. They have various titles, such as conservation officer, game warden, game agent, wildlife officer, game ranger, wildlife ranger etc. Regardless of title, the modern State conservation officer performs a vital law enforcement function in his community. He is often college educated, hired by civil service procedures, attends intensive basic police training schools, uses distinctively marked patrol vehicles equipped with two-way radios and other special equipment, and conducts a highly effective program of patrol, investigation, and public relations in his geographic area to create a deterrent and gain compliance with the conservation laws.

(Continued, Next Page)

District III Conservation Officers. (l-r) Conservation Officer II Robert Buyak; Conservation Officers I, Richard Pogmore, Donald Schleicher, Donald DeBella, Adelbert Huntley, Kirkley Dows, Frederick Lord, Jr., John Griswold, Jr.

District IV Conservation Officers. (l-r) Conservation Officer II Steve Muska; Conservation Officers I, Stanley Lebuis, Charles Rice, Donald Prussia, John Overturf, Louis Bayer, Joseph Pikul, Philip Russell.

(C.O.S., from Page Four)

Today's conservation officers are law enforcement specialists. While they normally have certain game and fish management responsibilities, the majority of their time is devoted to law enforcement activities. To carry out their responsibilities, all States have granted conservation officers the authority to make arrests, conduct searches, make seizures, and perform other related activites in enforcement of the laws under their primary jurisdiction. In all but three States, they are authorized to carry sidearms for self defense. In 23 States, comprising 46 percent of all conservation officers, the statutes designate them peace officers of the State with authority to enforce all State laws. In many States where they are not full peace officers, they are appointed deputy sheriffs or given special police powers during emergencies. In all States conservation officers assist State and local police agencies during emergencies such as riots and civil disorders, natural disasters, prison breaks, and civil defense operations. With their intimate knowledge of the rural areas, conservation officers provide invaluable assistance to State police and sherriffs' offices in apprehending fugitives and locating stolen property and lost persons.

Many conservation officers are members of State and local police associations. They are bona fide law enforcement officers, conducting various activities aimed at crime prevention and enforcement of certain criminal laws and regulations of the State. In addition, 2,759 State conservation officers are commissioned as special Federal officers, with arrest power, to assist our staff of U.S. Game Management Agents in enforcement of the Federal conservation laws.

(Marine Conservation Officers pictured on page six)

Marine Conservation Officers I, Thomas McCabe, George Hayden, Myron Van Ness.

REFLECTIONS OF A VETERAN C.O.

by Matthew Stevenson

Being extremely interested in the outdoors, I felt that my life work after leaving the service after World War II should be somewhere in the line of conservation. I applied for a position as a conservation officer with the State and after competing with nearly 200 applicants I was accepted and went to work in September of 1946.

I was assigned to an area of nine towns with the responsibility to make the fishing and hunting in these towns as good as it was possible with the land and water that we had available. I felt that I must try and get as much land and water open to the public, that could be stocked, to increase the opportunity for every license holder to have elbow room to hunt and fish. I knew it was also necessary to strictly enforce the laws and regulations so that all the rewards of the sport could be distributed fairly and also to protect the landowners who generously gave to us the use of their land. I felt I was a bridge between the thousands of sportsmen in my area and the landowners whom they depended on.

It has been a most gratifying job because of the many fine sportsmen that I have met and worked with who gave so much of their time and energy working for the same thing and landowners who were, in most cases, so patient—sticking with us even though many had had bad experiences with persons not worthy of the name sportsmen. These we did our best to weed out but for every one that we did, it seemed another grew to take his place to constantly gnaw at what we had accomplished. Even this did not hurt us as much as the ever-expanding towns, new homes and industries in our best pheasant swales and the degrading of our rivers to make them less suitable for fish. The noose on our recreation areas was being pulled tighter and tighter with a growing number of sportsmen entering the field. Some of our problems for space have been overcome by the Department's purchase of access areas to ponds, lakes and to the shore, making available to the public areas that were not readily so and the improvement of the habitat in areas that were not too productive.

The Sportsmen of course are still looking for more and more fish and game to be stocked but I believe today the sportsmen are more acquainted with the problems that exist and are more satisfied with what they have.

MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

While the bulk of enforcement activities performed by officers of the Board of Fisheries and Game relates to the inland district, the investigation and protection of salt water fishes and crustacea are important functions. Our salty complement includes one Marine Biologist II and three Marine Conservation Officers I.

Operating out of two well-equipped vessels, they divide their time, with no fixed ratio involved, between scientific research on such species as bluefish, lobsters and alewives, and the enforcement of the marine laws assigned to this department. Conservation Officers assigned to other patrol areas, especially those stationed in the coastal region, assist in both phases of their duties, and, for enforcement purposes, often perform independently.

Probably the major problem facing these men is the enforcement of lobster laws. With prices at today's levels for this delicacy, temptation to acquire them by any means and of any size seems great.

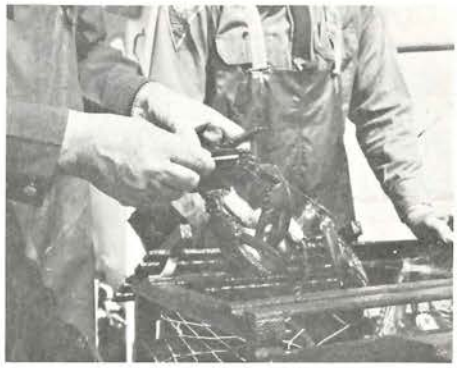
We accompanied Marine C.O. Myron Van Ness and C.O. Louis Bayer, whose inland patrol area includes North Stonington and Stonington, on a routine patrol day in the waters off the New London area. We were aboard the 36 foot patrol and research boat, "The James P. Galligan." The day was balmy, the seas, slight.

I got an unsolicited history lesson from C. O. Bayer on the way out. It seems that in this area the precolonial Indians of the Nehantic tribe lived upon the creatures of the seas, most importantly lobsters and shellfish. These were successfully taken in large numbers by hand, spears or crude nets, at low tides. The early Colonists learned quickly from their predecessors and also came to depend largely upon sea animals for protein.

But now, as all know, lobstering is big business, necessarily controlled by regulation and enforcement, if a future supply of the resource is to be allowed.

Starting fairly close to the Waterford shore, a pair of pots are hauled for inspection,—

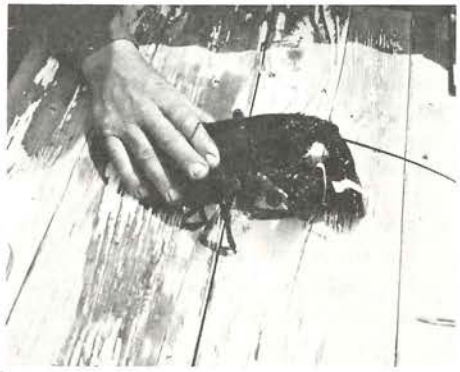
After several more pulls, some lobstermen are checked. They come in all varieties; old-timer—



If the guage shows $3\frac{3}{16}$ inches measured parallel to the center line from the rear of the eye socket to the rear of the body shell, it's legal size.

—checked for legal escapment openings—

—young, but professional, and an old hand at the business—



Checking in with a commercial distributor at the MIJOY dock we are informed of a tagged lobster taken. Tagging is a method applied by the Board to check growth and movement of these "bugs."

—and being found properly built and identified, returned to their jobs.

—or one of the majority of lobstermen operating in Connecticut waters who consider this activity a part-time business-hobby combination.

Toward the end of the day we meet C. O. George Hayden at an unpleasant task—checking a recently-submerged boat whose prop had fouled in a lobster pot line and apparently caused two fatalities.

WHY I BECAME A CONSERVATION OFFICER

By Robert J. Muldoon

When I was asked to write this article I knew it wouldn't be an easy task. How could I put into words something I've dreamed of all my life.

Ask a young boy what he wants to be when he grows up. He will answer a fireman, a policeman, or other various jobs. Then ask the youngster a year later and it will usually be something quite different from the first time.

If you had asked me twenty-five years ago what I wanted to be I'm sure my answer would have been a Game Warden. It seems that as far back as I can remember that was all I ever wanted from life. I'm also sure if you had asked me why, just as the boy who wanted to be a fireman, neither of us could have given you an answer.

At the age of fifteen I had written to several states to inquire how one enters the field of conservation. The replies were all the same. "We recommend entering college and majoring in forestry, biology, or any of the other subjects needed." Dut to circumstances beyond my control, college was out of the question. So I put my childhood ambition in the back of my mind, so every now and then I could dream about it. The years passed, but the ambition remained as strong as ever.

After a tour of duty in the service I entered the field of law enforcement to wear a coat of blue. Still the coat of green of the warden was what I really wanted.

For eleven years I settled down to my job, raising a family, and spending all the time I could either hunting or fishing. Whenever a Conservation Officer appeared the envy within me was ever present.

One day, after expressing my desire to my local Conservation Officer he assured me that with my past experience in the law enforcement field I was well qualified to apply for the job as a Conservation Officer for the State of Connecticut. That very day was the day I applied.

After a year of waiting, the worry of passing the written examination, an interview with the Administrative Officers of the Board of Fisheries and Game, my appointment was approved and I took the oath of Conservation Officer, grade I.

But why does a man at age thirty-four give up eleven years as a policemen, move ninety miles from a town where he was raising a fourth generation to begin again on the bottom rung of the ladder. This was the question both my friends and family asked.

In my time afield as a sportsman I had seen too much posted land, heard too much criticism of the sportsman and felt the loss of too much of our wildlife.

Everyone cries out against water and air pollution, the possible extinction of different species of wildlife and the loss of our natural resources. It just seemed to me all I ever heard were the cries. Everyone talks about it, but, as the saying goes, "talk is cheap." Now I am in the position where I am able to contribute to ending some of our losses. The contributions which I make may only be small, but at least I will be able to say I did something more than talk.

Another reason I had was the thought of being outdoors, performing the various duties which a Conservation Officer has, could never bore a man as many men are bored with their jobs. When you add the change of seasons and a chance to talk with sportsmen afield every day, what more could a man ask for.

A Conservation Officer doesn't have a wait between the hunting and fishing season, for there is much to be done in preparation for each coming year. Violations of the law are forever present and must be dealt with accordingly. The man who takes from us illegally must know that the Enforcement Officers and sportsmen alike won't allow him to do so without suffering the consequences.

My friends and family still maintain that I have sacrificed too much in order to fulfill my life-long ambition. But I am thankful to have the opportunity to contribute to the preservation of our wildlife here in the State of Connecticut.

WHY I CHOSE TO BE A CONSERVATION OFFICER

By Donald Schleicher

I have been requested to write a brief resume as to why I chose to be a Conservation Officer. I find this a rather hard question to answer. The reasons that made me choose the field of conservation as a profession are many and varied. I suppose I should start by saying that I consider myself to be an outdoorsman; I have spent most of my life since early childhood hunting, fishing, and trapping. I have always found the habits, and slyness, of wild animals, birds, and fish, to be fascinating and a challenge; from the way they select their homes to the way they protect, hide, and defend their young. In the fall and winter, I have found it to be a great challenge to hunt, and trap the wild animals that inhabit our woodlands. In the spring and summer, the challenge turned to the fish that inhabit our waterways. In my youth I was taught that there was a right and a wrong to hunting, fishing and trapping. I was taught that in the field there is the sportsman, and there is the poacher. In my teaching during my young days, I was told that the fish and game violator was a thief, and that hunting, fishing, and trapping laws were made for us, to help preserve our great heritage.

The outdoors was a way of life for me in my youth. In my school days, more than once, I was sent to principal's office for reading a hunting and fishing magazine, when I should have been paying attention in class. As I grew older I took a job working nights in a factory, so that it would be possible for me to spend as much time as possible in the outdoors. After meeting some of the Conservation Officers while in the field, I learned from them that most of these men felt and practiced conservation as a way of life, and where devoted to the management and protection of wildlife.

I then decided I wanted the field of conservation to be my way of life. I wanted a profession, not just a job where I went to work at a certain hour, came home at a certain hour, and went through the whole routine again the next day. I also decided then to further my education

(Continued on Page 11)

A SPRING DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CONSERVATION OFFICER

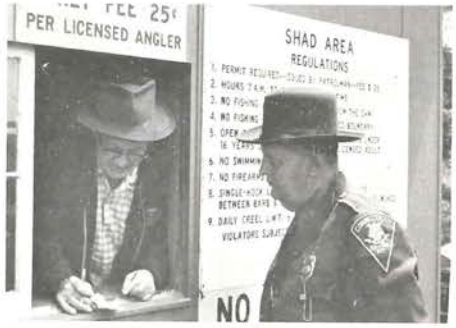
(Ed. note: All of us have read "A Day in the Life of" type writings with the thought that some fabrication might be present—a typical day just doesn't happen. Conservation Officer Fred Stula was forewarned of our trip, and we tried to cover some typical activities. Whether or not the particular scenes shown in this photo-story occurred, unplanned, in the same calendar day, will be left to the kindness of the reader; but, be assured, this day *was* typical in the sense of being full and diverse.

We made no arrests, issued no official warnings, rescued no capsized fishermen, made no speeches, investigated no fish-kills and got no flat tires this day, but C.O. Stula has assured me that I'm welcome to come along any time, just to see what might happen.)

At 8:00 a.m. (the photographer is a late riser) we sign on the air in C.O. Fred Stula's driveway in Wethersfield.

After replacing the sign, and while at the Suffield area on the Connecticut River we stop to check anglers at the Enfield dam, including this one with an early limit of six nice roe shad.

First stop is District II Headquarters in Farmington, to gas up—



Next a visit to the patrolman's shack at the State-controlled area to check up on previous days' angler success and listen to a few problems.

—and to pick up a sign to replace one that has disappeared.

A corn farmer in Windsor, with 83 acres, has applied for a permit to use scare devices to discourage birds, and checks out O.K.

Frequent court visits, to testify or check on impending cases are necessary, but this one took only about 15 minutes.

Lunch out of a black box and brown bag was next, and then we headed for a noon meeting with the hatchery truck. Several small streams were on the day's stocking schedule.

At about 3:00 p.m. a call comes over the air describing a deer—car accident.

On the trip home, time left for a small detour to loan a live trap to a pair of amateur farmers with racoon problems.

Fish Warden To Conservation Officer One Hundred Years–1869-1969

What has become Connecticut's present conservation officer force first saw the light of day on June 21, 1869. On that date the following bill, passed by the May Session of the 1869 General Assembly, was approved and became law.

Chapter XXVII

"That the selectmen of the several towns of the state may designate two persons in each town to be fish wardens whose duty it shall be to assist the fish commissioners in prosecution of offenses against the fisheries laws of the state, which fish wardens shall receive a suitable compensation from the treasury of each town."

The progression from the fish warden of 1869 to the conservation officer of 1969 follows quite closely the organizational changes that have taken place within the Fish and Game Department. A brief historical review of the legislative changes that have had an effect on the organizational structure of the law enforcement division of the department are as follows:

1869—Two fish wardens in a town may be designated by the selectmen.

1871—Two fish wardens approved by the fish commissioners and upon written request of the fish commissioners shall be appointed by the selectmen of any town.

1872—The fish commissioners shall appoint two or more persons in each town to be fish wardens.

1874—The fish commissioners shall annually appoint in every town where shad fishing exists one or more persons to be seine inspectors.

1883—The selectmen of every town shall appoint two or more persons to be game wardens.

1899—The county commissioner of each county shall appoint one person in such county as fish warden. Said fish warden may deputize another person to assist. The county commissioner of each county shall appoint one person to act in such county as game warden. Said game warden may deputize another person to assist.

1893—The fish commissioners may appoint special deputies, not to exceed three in number and such deputies shall perform in any county in this state.

1895—Commissioner of fish and game —shall appoint a necessary number of special protectors— who may serve in any county during the pleasure of commissioners—and who shall have the same powers and fees as fish wardens and game wardens.

1901—On or before September 1, 1901 and bi-annually thereafter the commissioners of fish and game shall appoint one person in each county as a fish and game warden—the fish and game warden for any county shall— appoint not less than ten nor more than twenty special fish and game protectors for said county to act under him.

1913—The superintendant of fisheries and game shall appoint one person from each county as a fish and game warden. Any warden may deputize another person to assist. The superintendant shall appoint not less than ten nor more than twenty special fish and game protectors for each county.

1921—The superintendant of fisheries and game shall appoint from each county one fish and game warden and not less than ten deputy fish and game wardens.

1923—The commissioners of fisheries and game shall from time to time appoint from each county one fish and game warden and not more than ten deputy wardens.

1925—The state board of fisheries and game shall appoint a state warden who shall have general supervision and control of all county and deputy wardens. Said board shall from time to time appoint from each county one fish and game warden and not more than ten deputy wardens.

1929—The state board of fisheries and game shall appoint not more than ninety men as fish and game wardens and shall from such number appoint a chief warden and eight county wardens. The remaining wardens shall be known as deputy wardens.

1939—The state board of fisheries and game may appoint not more than ninety men as fish and game wardens and shall from that number appoint a chief warden and eight state wardens. The remaining wardens shall be known as deputy wardens.

1953—The superintendant of the state board of fisheries and game shall with the approval of said board appoint such number of conservation officers as may be necessary for the efficient operation of said board.

1955—The Director of the state board of fisheries and game shall with the approval of said board appoint such number of conservation officers as may be necessary for the efficient operation of said board. Said director may—supplement the regular conservation officer force by appointing as special conservation officer any employee of said board.

Today Connecticut has a full-time uniformed conservation officer force of thirty-seven men which includes, one chief conservation officer, four Grade II conservation officers, and thirty-two Grade conservation officers, of which three are marine conservation officers. In addition, thirty one department employees have been appointed as special conservation officers and those persons assigned to

(Continued Next Page)

CHIEF CONSERVATION OFFICERS

1925-1934—A. Joseph Williamson
1934-1936—Frank N. Banning
1937-1953—Thomas E. Rose
1954-1956—Raymond E. Piaggi
1957-1963—Alfred J. Hunyadi
1964- —Leslie A. Williamson

(Why—From Page eight)

in conservation and natural resources, and apply to the state to become a Conservation Officer. The profession of being a Conservation Officer, offered everything I wanted. A variety of interesting work, the freedom of the outdoors, meeting the public, working with sportsmen, the excitement and adventure of the work. This was the type of work I believe I was made for. Following considerable effort, some luck probably, and the encouragement of an understanding wife, I was accepted and made my move.

Every man who has hunted, fished, or trapped, or studied wildlife in any way, has probably felt at one time or another the same way I do. What irrestistible factors have drawn men from all walks of life to the wilds and the waters, to the farmlands, and the uplands, of our nation? Maybe it's the thrill of a trout coming after a lure, or dry fly, or it might be the excitement of a pheasant on the wing. Maybe it's the sight of a wild deer, or a flock of Canada geese, or just seeing the many pleasures of mother nature. Myself, I wanted most of all to work at what I enjoyed the best, and where I felt I really belonged, and I believe that there is no work more intriguing than working in the field of wildlife conservation.

(Fish Warden—From Page ten)

work in a district are equipped with uniforms for use when assigned to law enforcement work.

The Connecticut conservation officers' record in conservation law enforcement is second to none, as proven by a consistently better than 95% conviction record made each year. They also temper strict enforcement with good judgment as witnessed by an average of over 500 official warnings issued annually for minor or unintentional offenses.

Connecticut's past and present conservation officers have been and are dedicated public servants, strict but fair and impartial in law enforcement, interested, knowledgeable, and cooperative in all wildlife projects and deserving of the high respect and confidence received from the sportsmen and the general public.

RECORD OF FISH AND GAME PROSECUTIONS

Symbols: **AI**—Arrested in
O—Arresting Officer(s)
V—Violation
J—Judge
F—Fined
S—License privilege suspended by Board (dependent upon past record of violator, record of the case, etc.)

BEMIS, Brad P., Glastonbury; **AI**—Glastonbury; **O**—Dows, De Bella, Schleicher, R. Pogmo e: V—illegal possession of deer; **J**—Monchun; **F**—$100; **S**—1 yr.

BEMIS, Paul, Glastonbury; **AI**—Glastonbury; **O**—Dows, DeBella, Schleicher, R. Pogmore; **V**—illegal possession of deer; **J**—Monchun; **F**—$100; **S**—1 yr.

BUNNELL, George, R., Oceanport, N.J.; **AI**—Torrington; **O**—Sondrini; **V**—fishing in stream during closed season; **J**—Missal; **F**—$10 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

CADY, Edward C., Avon; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher, Huntley; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

CARROLL, Thomas J., Plainville; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

CLOUTIER, Ronald J., Moosup; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Overturf, Pikul; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

COLEMAN, George R., Jr., Norwich; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher, Huntley; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

DAHLSTROM, John E., Bronx, N.Y.; **AI**—Ridgefield; **O**—Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Casale; **F**—$25 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

DARIN, John A., Wallingford; **AI**—Wallingford; **O**—F. Pogmore; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Henebry; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

DAVIS, Herman E., Boston, Mass.; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Lebuis; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in Long Pond during closed season; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$20 for. bond; **S**—6 mos.

DUBORD, Donald W., Clinton; **AI**—Guilford; **O**—McCabe, White; **V**—jacklighting deer; **J**—Eielson; **F**—$400; **S**—3 yrs.

DUFFY, David D,. Flushing, N.Y.; **AI**—New Fairfield; **O**—Kimball, Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in Lake Candlewood during closed season; **J**—Casale; **F**—$20; **S**—6 mos.

FEINBERG, David A., Killingworth; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

FERAGINE, Michael S., Jr., Flushing, N.Y.; **AI**—New Fairfield; **O**—Deane, Kimball; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in Lake Candlewood during closed season; **J**—Casale; **F**—$20 for. bond; **S**—6 mos.

FORESE, Louis, Washington; **AI**—Washington; **O**—Lovich, Beeman, Begley, Sondrini; **V**—illegal possession of deer; **J**—Missal; **F**—$125; **S**—2 yrs.

GARLITZ, Roger D., E. Hampton; **AI**—Colchester; **O**—Buyak, Dows; **V**—fishing in stream during closed season; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

HARRIS, Everett A., Preston; **AI**—Preston; **O**—Lebuis, Page; **V**—killing mute swan, discharging firearm within 500 ft. of building occupied by people; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$35; **S**—3 mos.

HEFLIN, Jack M., W. Hartford; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher, Huntley; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

LEHTO, Norman V., North East Maryland; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher, Huntley; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

LEMOIS, Gerard A., W. Warwick, R.I.; **AI**—Norwich; **O**—Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

LEMOIS, Ovide J., W. Warwick, R.I.; **AI**—Norwich; **O**—Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

LEMOIS, Robert P., Quonset Point, R.I.; **AI**—Norwich; **O**—Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

McPADDEN, Robert T., Bridgeport; **AI**—Southbury; **O**—Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lacey; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

McPADDEN, William J., Bridgeport; **AI**—Southbury; **O**—Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lacey; **F**—$10 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

MICHAUD, Isidore R., Norwich; **AI**—Norwich; **O**—Pikul, Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

MORRISSEY, Michael J., Elmhurst, N.Y.; **AI**—New Fairfield; **O**—Kimball, Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in Lake Candlewood during closed season; **J**—Casale; **F**—$20; **S**—6 mos.

ODETTE, Arthur D., Hartford; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

ODETTE, Arthur H., Rocky Hill; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

PERSON, Eric, Mansfield; **AI**—Columbia; **O**—Muska, DeBella, Overturf, Pogmore, Pikul, Golden; **V**—illegal possession parts of deer; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$15; **S**—2 yrs.

PLOURDE, Rene J., Jr., Willimantic; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Overturf, Pikul; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

ROCK, Daniel, Willimantic; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Pikul, Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

SANDERSON, Albert, West Haven; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

SANTA LUCIA, Guy, Willimantic; **AI**—Chaplin; **O**—Russell; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Dearington; **F**—$20; **S**—4 mos.

SCHANZ, Valentin W., No. Branford; **AI**—Guilford; **O**—F. Pogmore, McCabe; **V**—possession of jacklighting equipment, loaded rifle in motor vehicle; **J**—Eielson; **F**—$300 for. bond; **S**—Indefinitely

SCHMIDT, James E., Groton; **O**—Overturf, Bayer, Muska; **V**—hunting w/o license; **J**—Levine; **F**—$10; **S**—1 yr.

SELVAGGI, Frederick P., Jr., Wallingford; **AI**—Wallingford; **O**—White; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in stream in closed season; **J**—Macdonald; **F**—$20; **S**—6 mos.

SHEEHAN, Harry D., Southbury; **AI**—Newtown; **O**—Deane; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in closed area; **J**—Casale; **F**—$30; **S**—1 yr.

SIMS, Frederick M., New Britain; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

SMITH, Michael W., Uncasville; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

STEWART, Dale T., Wallingford; **AI**—Wallingford; **O**—F. Pogmore; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Henebry; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

SURPLESS, Donn C., New London; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Lebuis; **V**—fishing w/o license, fishing in Long Pond during closed season; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$20 for. bond; **S**—6 mos.

VERRANEAULT, Andrew R., Manchester, **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$15 for. bond; **S**—4 mos.

WILSON, William F., W. Hartford; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

WOLF, Herman A., New Britain; **AI**—Montville; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Kinmonth; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

WRIGHT, David B., Willimantic; **AI**—Ledyard; **O**—Pikul, Overturf; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Lexton; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

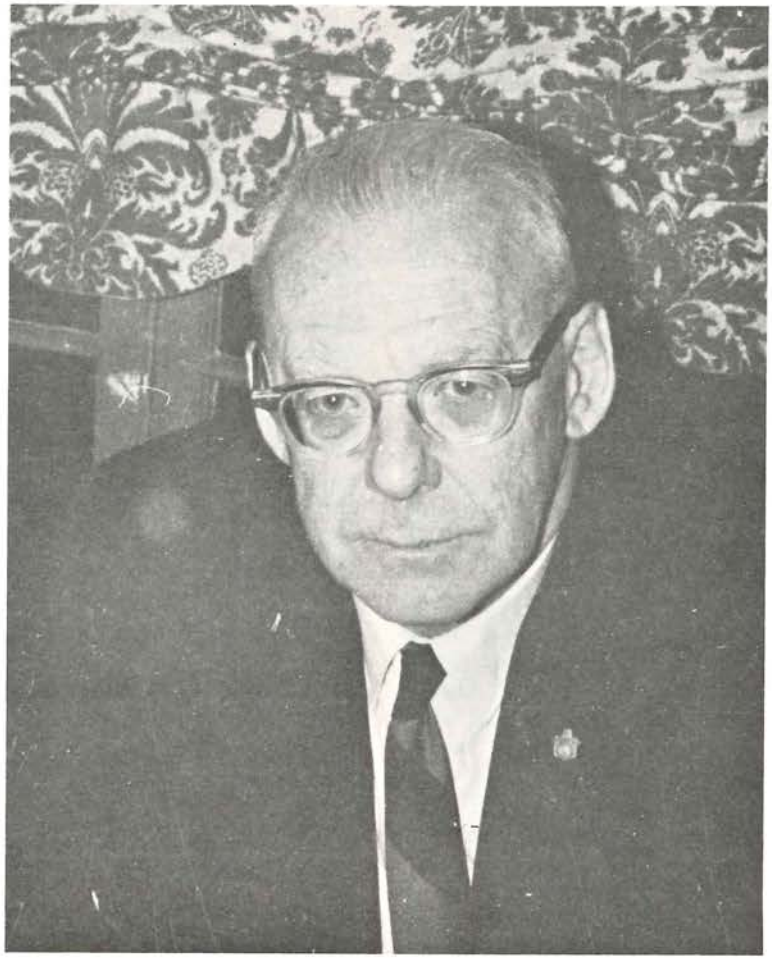
ZORDAN, Anthony, Jr., Torrington; **AI**—Lyme; **O**—Huntley, Schleicher; **V**—fishing w/o license; **J**—Quinn; **F**—$10; **S**—4 mos.

Law Enforcement Summary

January—April, 1969

Sportsmen Checked	Arrests	Warnings
20,440	138	285

100 YEARS OF WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT



Chief Conservation Officer Leslie A. Williamson, who was elected President of the Conservation Law Enforcement Chief's Association at that group's annual meeting, held last February in West Virginia. The meetings are held as part of the annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. Twelve states and six Canadian Provinces from the Northeastern Region have membership in the Association.

THE Connecticut WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Bulletin

CONN. STATE BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME
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