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Shots and Casts

By Joe Ashley



A couple of weeks back we indicated that as soon as we received any word about PCB content in Lake Champlain fish we would pass it along. Having just heard from Arthur Woldt, Public Information Officer for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, we are pleased to quote: "In regard to your question about Lake Champlain fish for PCB content, the Department analyzed 14 fish of five different species — smallmouth bass, walleye, northern pike, yellow perch and brown bullhead. Only the smallmouth bass samples came near the five ppm level established by the FDA and these samples tested out to 4.9 ppm and 4.5 ppm. The other species were well below five ppm."

In addition to the above, Art adds: "I might also mention that an earlier advisory on possible mercury contamination of freshwater fish in New York is still in effect. That advisory recommended that fishermen limit themselves to one meal of freshwater fish per week and that pregnant women should not eat fish taken from State Waters."

The last paragraph might even frighten some people, but that's exactly the way we received it — right from the horse's mouth.

One more paragraph from Art says:

"On the positive side of fishing the salmon run at Pulaski on Lake Ontario was the best ever and several new freshwater fish records were set during the 1975 season."

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Since we have received inquiries about the various upcoming outdoor/camping shows, we are listing herewith all that we know about to date. Should we learn of any others that might interest members of the outdoor fraternity in this area, we shall be glad to mention them.

Jan. 24 - Feb. 1 — New England Sportsmen's and Camping Show at Hynes Veterans Auditorium, Prudential Center, Boston.

Jan. 31 - Feb. 8 — 1976 NAFCA Family Camping Show, Northeast Trade Center, Woburn, Mass. Use Exits 40 and 39 off Route 128.

Feb. 7-15 — International Boat Show, also at Hynes Auditorium.

Feb. 13-16 — Springfield Camping and Outdoor Show, sponsored by Pioneer Valley Chapter 8, NAFCA, Better Living Center at Exposition Grounds, West Springfield.

March 12, 13, 14 — 4th Annual New Hampshire Camping and Outdoor Show, State Armory, Manchester, New Hampshire. Amoskeag Exit off Everett Turnpike (1-93-193).

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Interest in the wood duck nesting box program appears to have quickened noticeably this year with new groups and individuals signing up for boxes at Center Sports. If you wish to participate in this conservation project, don't put it off — get your order in right away.

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Since we have but recently become interested in bow hunting, it follows that we welcome any and all information that might help us. So, it was with no little interest that we have been trying to absorb the content of Russell Tinsley's BOW HUNTER'S GUIDE, listed as the complete guide to selecting and using bow-hunting equipment.

Tinsley makes no bones about saying that if the reader is interested in target shooting, this book is not for him, there are many other volumes on the market to cover this area in archery. In his introduction he points out: "It isn't easy to be a bow-hunter. The long path to success is usually marked by disappointment and frustration. Yet in a way that is the sport's charm. The challenge makes each success something special." He concludes with: "Yes, bow hunting is not for everybody. Unless you are willing to sacrifice and "pay the price," don't continue. This book is not for you. But if you are interested in hunting rather than in killing I invite you to read on. It can be a very fascinating and rewarding sport."

Chapters deal with the sport as follows: 1. The Sport of Bow Hunting, 2. Why Hunt with Bow and Arrow? 3. Equipment: Its Use and Care, 4. Learning to Shoot, 5. Hunting with a Bow Sight, 6. Hunting Aids, 7. Practice Gets the Game, 8. Deer Hunting, 9. Deer Hunting's Most Crucial Decision, 10. Quick Kills on Big Game, 11. After the Arrow Hits, 12. Advanced Deer Hunting, 13. Hunting Other Big Game, 14. Small Game Hunting, 15. Stalking Varmints, 16. Let the Game Hunt You, 17. Bird Hunting: Trick or Treat? 18. Where Hunters Seldom Miss, 19. Hunt the Refuges, 20. Field-Dressing and Caring for Game, 21. If You're Going to Have It Mounted, 22. Will It Make the Record List? 23. Bow Fishing, 24. The Rules of the Game. This 192 page paper-back is published by the Stoeger Publishing Company, 55 Ruta Court, South Hackensack, N.J. Retail price, $5.95.

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