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### It Wasn't The Stork But The Records That Gave Us A Bum Steer

Statistics don't lie. Here comes the sixth leap year baby, rounding out the correct number of folks born on the last day of February during Leap Year, for an area the size of the Back Mountain. And here we thought the stork had been negligent.

Ken Matchett, with six birthdays to his credit, carefully concealed the fact when the leap year census was taken this year. But we have connections. Ken is twenty-four, born in 1932. But according to the calendar, he is only six. On non-leap years he celebrates on the stroke of midnight, February 28, and by the time the clock finished striking, his birthday is a thing of the past.

### Huntin' & Fishin'

(Continued from Page Two)

ber 1, ends August 31, 1957. Overall, the seasons are the most liberal in many, many years.

These changes and departures can be noted by comparing the 1956 seasons with those of 1955:

The season for hunting squirrels (gray, black and fox), ruffed grouse and wild turkeys has been extended from the usual four weeks to five weeks this year. It begins October 20. The season on ring-necked pheasants (males only), cottontail rabbits and bobwhite quail opens October 27. The season on all spe-

cies of native small game named in this paragraph ends November 24. The daily and seasonal bags are the same as in 1955.

Squirrels are abundant and the extra week of hunting will allow additional sport without hurting the population. Field studies indicate grouse and wild turkeys can withstand a longer season, thus the extension of time this year for the taking of these birds. The turkey season will be recognized as the most liberal since the come-back of this great bird.

The Commission advanced the bow and arrow antlered deer season to open October 1, and set the end of that special season at October 19. This three-week season will be the longest enjoyed yet in this state by archers.

The mink and muskrat seasons were changed so as to run concurrently, December 1, 1956, to January 15, 1957, which is also a departure from long standing procedure.

The opening hour for small game and other wild birds and animals on October 27 will be 9 a.m. The other opening days, and otherwise during the season for upland and big game, the shooting hours daily are from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., excepting from July 1 to September 30 inclusive, 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and the hours for the October archers' deer season, which are 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (All shooting hours are based on Eastern Standard Time. The above shooting hours do not apply to migratory game.)

The season on hares (snowshoe rabbits), will be from December 29, 1956, to January 5, 1957 and the daily limit 2, season limit 6.

Red squirrels may be taken in unlimited numbers throughout the year except October 1 to 19, inclusive.

Raccoons, woodchucks (ground-hogs) and grackles remain on the unprotected list and may be taken in unlimited numbers for the entire 1956 license year.

Regulations covering possession and transportation limits of legally killed small game are the same as last year. They allow not more than the daily limit for the first day nor more than an accumulated total for

each succeeding day of the open season species. But small game shall not be in excess of the season limit, regardless where held, stored or found in possession.

The shooting hours for big game are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. all days of deer and bear seasons, excepting the archers' October deer season given below.

### Antlered Deer:

From December 3 to 15, inclusive, a two-week "buck" season, statewide, for animals of the following description: male deer with 2 or more points to one antler; provided, a male deer with antlers 3 or more inches long without points, measured from the top of the skull as the deer is in life, shall again be considered legal.

### Bears:

The season bears will be for one week this year, November 26 to December 1, inclusive. Only bears over one year old are legal game. An individual hunter may take one bear in the 1956 season. A hunting party of 3 or more persons may take 2 bears in one day or during the entire season.

It is noted that there will be no turkey or other small game hunting during the bear season this year.

### Bow Season for Deer:

The three-week archers' season, October 1 to 19 inclusive, will be for male deer only as described in the antlered deer season above. In addition to the regular hunting license every bow hunter, without exception, must procure a special archery license costing \$2.00 from the Department of Revenue, Harrisburg, in order to hunt during the special bow season. Shooting hours during the special bow and arrow season for deer shall be from 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., E.S.T., all days of the season.

### No Antlerless Deer Season:

For the following reasons the Game Commission did not declare an antlerless deer season this year:

With the exception of some counties in the northcentral and northwest parts of the state the antlerless deer season of 1955, along with winter kill and accidental deer kills, have somewhat alleviated the overall deer problem temporarily.

### Furbearers:

The mink and muskrat season will run concurrently, December 1, 1956 to January 15, 1957. These furbearers may be taken in unlimited numbers.

Skunks and opossums remain unprotected and may be taken in unlimited numbers. Beavers may be trapped, statewide, February 14 to March 11, 1957. The daily limit is 4, the season limit is 4.

All hunting and trapping dates given above are inclusive, except that the last day of each trapping season terminates at noon.

### Closed Seasons:

There will be no open season on: Hungarian partridges, hen pheasants, sharp-tailed grouse, cub bears, elk, antlerless deer, bucks with antlers less than three inches long, and otters.

### Don't Forget!!!

The success of this column will depend a lot on you readers. Send in that information on the successful fishing trip you had, or any news of interest to local sportsmen.



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