



Bottle-fed wildlife become "idiot" orphans. According to Webster, "incapable of avoiding the common dangers of life." More than 100 kidnapped baby raccoon will be shown in one cage at the annual state fair fish and game exhibit.

ORPHAN RACCOON HEADLINE FAIR EXHIBIT

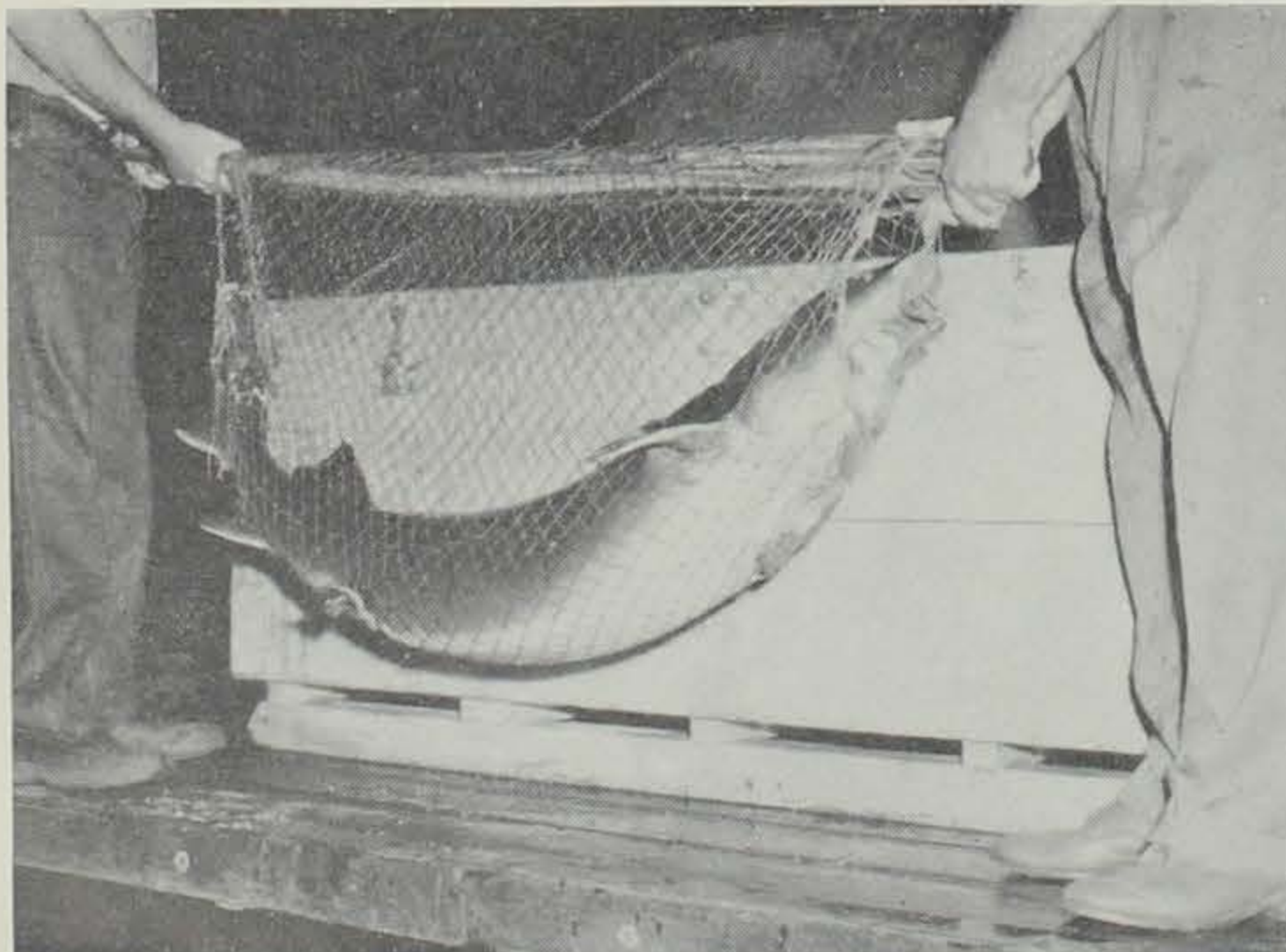
More than 100 six-months old raccoon orphans displayed in one giant cage will headline the Iowa Conservation Commission's wildlife exhibit at the Fish and Game building, August 25-September 3, at the state fair grounds in Des Moines. Most of the raccoons are animals that were illegally held as pets by "wildlife kidnapers" this spring and were seized by conservation officers. A few of the raccoons are truly orphans whose parents were killed in accidents.

The exhibit pen will contain swings, teeter-totters, slide boards and other playground equipment, plus a self-serve shower bath.

The purpose of the display is to bring forcefully to the attention of well-meaning but misinformed persons that to pick up wildlife babies is not only unlawful, but certainly signs the death warrant for the animals involved. The sign describing the exhibit will point out that wild animals that reach

maturity in captivity, not only do not learn to protect themselves and find food in the wild—an education painstakingly taught by the parents—but also that they lose their fear of man and become nuisances and even dangerous. It is hoped that the display will cut down on "animal-nappings" estimated to have reached a high of over 2,000 raccoon alone in 1950.

In addition to the coon show, the exhibit will contain thousands of fish, birds, reptiles, mammals and other animal forms. Old Oscar, the 115-pound fifty-one year old black sturgeon, will again occupy the No. 1 fish tank for the 31st year. Big Hattie, Iowa's largest snapping turtle, will again be shown. The biggest, most complete collection of snakes ever exhibited at the fair will be on display. A coyote-dog hybrid will occupy a cage between an 85-pound timber wolf, not native, and a 35-pound coyote common in the



Old Oscar is removed from a fisheries truck in a stretcher net to be placed in the number one fish tank at the fish and game exhibit. The giant black sturgeon, weighing more than 110 pounds has been a star performer at the state fair for 31 years.

state. Geronimo, a full-grown mountain lion, a species once native in Iowa that was captured alive in Arizona by Ted Girard, will be exhibited in a special cage.

Many other special animal exhibits will entertain the visitors.

Displays explaining the activities of the Conservation Commission in biology, forestry, engineering, parks, education, and fish and game development will be contained in the exhibit. For the first time the corrected second edition of the popular new book, *Iowa Fish and Fishing*, will be on sale for \$2.00.

Experts in all fields of conservation activities will be on duty from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. each day to answer your questions. Plan to see the fish and game show, the most popular on the fairground, at the Conservation building, August 25-September 3.

In 24 completed clutches of bobwhite eggs, the number varied from 10 to 22.

Bulldozer . . .

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the two gals isolated themselves in separate cubicles.

The fuzzy rascals propagate once a year. Mating in March, the litter of from one to five is born six weeks later. The kiddies grow rapidly and at two months are as big as pop and mom.

Soon they are seeking new golf courses to conquer, at three years have reached their dotage, give up the ghost and a different tribe takes over.—*Outdoor Indiana*.

A jack rabbit is not a rabbit. It is a hare and can run as fast as 45 miles an hour.

Wild banded ducks have been reported as old as 18 years, and geese and swans at least 20 years old.

The bald eagle is primarily a fish eater, and because of this fact he is seldom found very far from water.

The submerged vegetation in Clear Lake has decreased considerably in abundance since 1946.



A beautiful stock-tight multiflora rose hedge in Wapello County. Jim Sherman Photo.

FREE MULTIFLORA ROSE SEED

Again this year the Iowa Conservation Commission will provide free multiflora rose seed to Iowans wishing to grow their own rose plants. Seed will be mailed upon request about September 15 in packets of 1,000 seeds, each with complete planting instructions for late fall planting.

The seeds should be planted this fall shortly before the ground freezes. They may be planted in a vegetable garden plot and next year will demand about the same care during the seedling stage as carrots or onions. When the plants are a year old they may be transplanted to their permanent location. Normally, the seeds have about a 60 per cent germination, one packet being enough for 600 plants or 600 feet of living fence. Because of heavy demand, the Commission has limited the re-

quests to not more than 5 seed packets.

Multiflora rose has proved successful as a stock-proof living fence in the south half of the state, and large numbers of experimental plantings in the north half have proved successful to date.

The rose, in addition to making an inexpensive fence, is heralded as a great boon to Iowa's wildlife. The thorny shrub, which grows to a maximum height and width of 8 feet and is non-spreading, provides excellent refuge in nesting places for game and song birds, as well as small animals.

In addition to its use as a living fence and for wildlife cover, multiflora rose hedge is excellent for wind erosion control.

Requests for free multiflora rose seed should be addressed to the Iowa Conservation Commission, East Seventh and Court Avenue, Des Moines, and should be in Commission hands by September 15.