

# No warm-water fishing, yet

*Ukelich, George*

"The trouble with Lake Mendota fishing," Steady Eddy laments, "is that it's full of warm water species and right now the lake is still as cold as a well digger's knees. JUN 16 1978

"We've only had about a half dozen cold fronts move through here in the past week," he groaned. "The majority of perch haven't even spawned yet."

He fixed me with that green, beady eye.

"With the lake temperature at 64 degrees," he observed icily, "who would?"

Being a warm-water species myself, I could empathize with that and I moved off to check with our cooler friends at Cap-

tain Jack's Fishing Pro Shop, 909 East Broadway; and Blair Street Bait & Tackle, 138 South Blair.

Here, lake by lake, is your Friday fishing report:

**LAKE MENDOTA:** Some walleyes are being taken off Dunn's Bar on minnows. They're getting perch off the Edgewater on small worms.

Crappies are being taken around Governor's Island. Lots of crappies are being caught at Westport right off the shore. They're biggies and they're hitting minnows.

Small Northerns are being taken off the County Park down to the Hatch Cover. Some North-

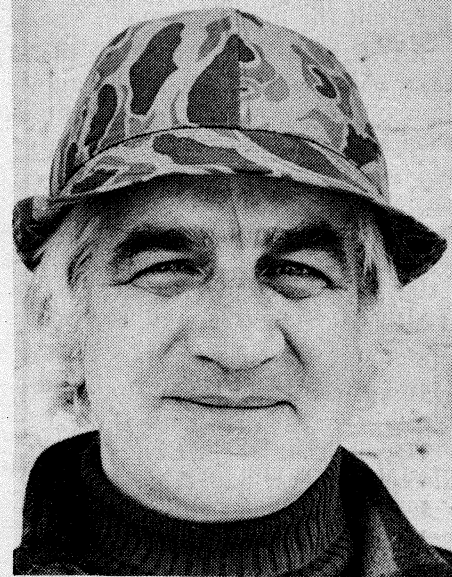
erns coming off Second Point, not the least of which was one taken by our picket line buddy, Butch Howes of Middleton, who says it's the best thing that's happened to him since this newspaper strike began ninety years ago or so.

Yesterday afternoon, Butch nailed a Northern pike off Second Point on a No. 4 Silver Mepps French spinner. The fish weighed 11 lbs. 9 oz. and measured 37 inches.

Other noteworthy fish leaving Mendota this week were taken by:

- Willie Hunt, Madison, an 18

See FISH, page 23



Papa Hambone's Fishing Report

## Fish wait for warmer lake waters

JUN 16 1978  
CONTINUED from page 24

lb. 3 oz. catfish out of the Cherokee Marsh. On chicken liver.

● Joe Iverson, Madison, a 1 lb. 10 oz. crappie off Governor's Island. Fish was 14<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in. long.

● Ray Amble, Monona, a largemouth bass, 5 lb. 4 oz. on a nightcrawler. Ray also brought in five Mendota bluegills that weighed 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lb. Other pound bluegills were taken by:

● Kevin Shackett, McFarland, a 1 lb. 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> oz. bluegill on a worm.

● Richard Quinlan, Madison, a 1 lb. 6 oz. bluegill on a red worm. Fish was 11 in. long.

● Harold McQueen, DeForest, a 1 lb. 5 oz., 11-inch bluegill on a nightcrawler.

**LAKE MONONA:** Some Northerns being taken off Law Park; finally. Use good size suckers, 6 to 8 in. long. Some bluegills beginning at Law Prk on red worms. Nice perch are being caught off Turville's Point on pieces of nightcrawler. Where the Yahara empties into Monona off the weedbed, they're taking bluegills on red worms.

At the Triangle, crappies are fair on Pinkys and minnows.

**SQUAW BAY:** Some bluegills coming out, but the majority haven't moved up into their beds yet. Red worms and wax worms working best.

The river fishing is pretty quiet, a few bass are being caught but they're awfully small. One of the larger ones was taken by:

● Chuck Downing, Janesville, who landed a fat largemouth on the live minnow. Fish weighed 4 lb. 15 oz., measured 20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in.

● **LAKE WAUBESA:** Nice bluegills off Goodland Park area in five to seven feet of water. Best bets are worms, red and waxies.

They're taking small perch off Hog Island on hellgrammites if you can get 'em. If you can't, perch will take the wax worms too.

They're still catching crappies off Goodland — and off Larson's on the other side — but the crappie action has slowed here.

Few bass are coming out at the Bible Camp. Also walleyes at night here. But dress for it after sundown.

Way down by the Springs in the southern part of the lake, they're picking up some Northerns but the pike are small.

**LAKE KEGONSA:** Starting to take some really nice foot-long jumbo perch on hellgrammites. Fish are running right around a pound apiece. They're off Holiday Point in 10 to 12 feet of water. Tell 'em Hambone sent you.

**UPPER MUD LAKE & YAHARA:** Bluegills and a few small bass.

Overall, Steady Eddy and the Captain concur that while things aren't all that good, things are also not all that bad. And by the time you read this, today should be heading for 90 in the shade and everything should be warming up and swinging this weekend — including the perch. Keep your feet dry and your bait wet.