

GEOLOGY

Last Ice-Age Ice Covered Milwaukee

► GLACIAL ICE hundreds of thousands of feet thick buried Milwaukee, Wis., until 10,700 years ago.

Exact dates and rates of movement of the last ice age to blanket North America have been determined by Dr. Richard F. Flint, professor of geology at Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Using carbon-14 dating methods, he found that the last big ice push, 10,700 years ago, covered from Duluth, Minn., across the Great Lakes to Lake Champlain, New York.

The glacier moved down on the United States at a rate of about 960 feet a year. It stopped finally at Milwaukee, and after a few hundred years began retreating.

By 8,200 years ago, he said, it had receded to the vicinity of Green Bay, Wis., 170 miles north of Milwaukee. Its retreat was at the rate of 345 feet a year. By 6,500 years ago the ice had melted from all the Great Lakes region.

Tests also showed, Dr. Flint stated, that glacial ice covered the area northwest of Hudson Bay as recently as 4,000 years ago.

Science News Letter, February 25, 1956

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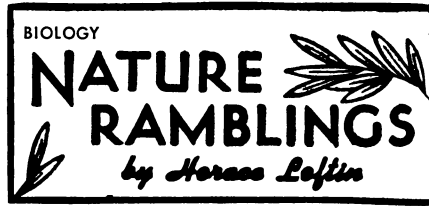
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Naming the Animals

► PROBABLY the last time the common names of animals were in anything resembling order was very shortly after Father Adam first passed them out. The mix-up of names certainly began long before work was interrupted on the Tower of Babel, for people in general have a genius for calling animals by the wrong name or adding new ones.

Scientists have done a pretty good job in a difficult situation by applying standard scientific names to all the known species. But when it comes to the problem of what name to call the young, the male, the female and the group (for instance, herd and flock) of a given species, they generally throw in the towel.

The reason is understandable. For instance, did you know that the little fellow riding on mama toad's back in the picture is a "bullhead?"

Here is a quiz to test your own knowledge of "common" animal names. Answers are found following each group of questions.

Name the animals whose young are sometimes called: 1. stirk; 2. scrod; 3. eyas; 4. squealer; 5. brit; 6. stot; 7. kit; 8. graul; 9. teg.

Answers: 1. cattle 2. cod, haddock; 3.

falcon; 4. grouse, partridge, quail pigeon; 5. herring; 6. horse, ox; 7. muskrat, mink; 8. salmon; 9. sheep.

What is the name of the young of the: 1. chimpanzee; 2. jack-rabbit; 3. green turtle; 4. whale?

Answers: 1. infant; 2. kitten; 3. chicken; 4. calf.

What do you call a: 1. female falcon; 2. female fish; 3. female owl; 4. male red deer; 5. male sandpiper; 6. female swan; 7. male terrapin?

Answers: 1. haggard; 2. hen; 3. jenny howlet; 4. hart; 5. ruff; 6. pen; 7. bull.

If your score wasn't very high, don't let it worry you. This is one quiz that the quiz-master failed, too.

Science News Letter, February 25, 1956

ICHTHYOLOGY

Calm Fish in Transport By Using Anesthetics

► FISHERY BIOLOGISTS in Canada are using anesthetics and freezing temperatures to quiet sports fishes being transferred from lake to lake, the Canadian Wildlife Service reports.

In moving pickerel and pike over 40 miles of road in the Prince Albert National Park last summer, the big fish were placed in canvas tanks containing a dilute solution of urethane, an anesthetic. The hardier northern pike took about twice as long as the pickerel to lose consciousness.

When they were "out," the fish were bedded in chipped ice in wooden containers, ready for the overland trip to their new homes. The fish were kept unconscious for up to five hours.

Fins of the fish were clipped, and some of the marked fish were caught in gill nets a few days after their release. They appeared to be none the worse for their "knock out" treatment.

Active fish being transported require a large supply of well-oxygenated, cool water, an expensive, hard-to-obtain order for carrying fish from lake to lake in most areas. By shipping the fish in an anesthetized condition, packed in ice, cost and equipment are held to a minimum, insuring the arrival of the fish in excellent condition.

Science News Letter, February 25, 1956

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