

apply their biological principles and will help them learn first-hand some of the biological solutions to urban problems. A balanced biology program must

prepare students to look intelligently at their own environment, as well as the forests, fields, and streams which they rarely see.

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### **A SHELLFISH INDUSTRY FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE?**

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's Division of Inland and Marine Fisheries is currently engaged in a study to determine the potential for a seed oyster industry in Great Bay. The project, jointly operated and financed by the Department and the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, is being directed by Prof. George Moore of the University of New Hampshire Zoology Department.

To determine the suitability of Great Bay for a seed oyster industry, it is necessary to establish the location, extent and acreage of oyster beds in this more than 6,000 acre body of water, and it is also necessary to learn when the oysters spawn, the abundance of larvae, and the reproduction potential of the oysters.

Depending on temperature and food conditions, oyster larvae go through a 10 day to 4 week period as planktonic organisms while they develop to the setting stage. When they are ready to metamorphose, the larvae permanently attach themselves to some solid object in the water. This may be natural culch, such as existing rocks, driftwood, dead oyster shells, or living oysters, or it may be planted culch, such as the strings of oyster and pecten shells Dr. Moore and his assistants have provided.

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### **TURKEYS**

Turkey is a traditional part of American Thanksgiving dinners but what do these big birds consider a holiday feast? Pennsylvania game protector Richard Donahoe reports a young wild turkey gobbler harvested by a hunter on Armedia Mountain near Troy last November had dined on the following: 245 grasshoppers, several hundred witch hazel seeds and oats grains, 23 pebbles, 1 preying mantis egg case, 178 red berries (species unknown), 5 weed seed pods, 1 kernel of corn, black cherry seed, and 1 hawthorn apple.

### **ALASKA ADOPTS NEW POLAR BEAR REGULATIONS**

New regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fish and Game may act to prevent the annual sportsmen's kill of polar bears from rising above 300. There presently is no indication that hunters are taking an excessive number of the great white bears, but knowledge about the animal's abundance, movements, and basic biology is far from complete.

Only holders of individual, non-transferable permits may hunt polar bears with the use of aircraft during the open season, under the new regulations. Only licensed hunters may apply for one of the 350 permits, and nonresidents, who make up much of the clientele of the pilot-guides group, will be required to possess a nonrefundable \$10 hunting license to be eligible for a permit. A public drawing will be held in case more than 350 applications are received for the permits. Another new application bars a sportsman from taking more than one bear every three years.

Alaska residents still will be permitted to take bears except cubs and sows with cubs for food, if aircraft are not used to help bag the animals. Not many bears have been taken for food in recent years. The effect of the changes, according to some observers, will be to peg the polar bear bag at about 300 animals a year, the average kill of the last two years.

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### **MEASLES**

There are more than 4 million cases of measles in the United States each year. Despite the fact that many people consider this disease an inevitable and largely harmless experience of childhood, probably 450 to 500 die each year from the complications of measles. It is estimated that one case in every 1000 results in some brain damage which will mar the child for life.