

# Fishing With George Booie



George Gunter, an ardent fisherman and keeper at the Evergreen Cemetery, had a very exciting fishing trip. Unlike most fishermen he has a habit of going about his fishing the hard way. Here are the details. When he reached the banks of his favorite fishing hole down on the High Rock Lake the day was passing and there was not too much time to waste. George baited up a rig with cut bait and casted it to a likely spot. Laying the rod down on the ground he proceeded to get his other rods unlimbered for action.

He heard a light scraping noise and then a plop into the brink. Looking up he saw his rod in the water and going out. Without hesitation George was off the bank and into the lake, making a strenuous effort to oversake the run-away rod and fish. Catching the rod before it was out too far he raised the tip and begun a retrieve; cranking like mad. Setting the hook and discovering that a big catfish was on the other end he forgot that he was still standing in the lake.

I am wondering just what his reaction would have been had his unexpected plunge put him in six feet of water. As if the catfish incident was not enough excitement George baited his Zebco 33 with a minnow and made a cast that hardly went out over fifteen feet. The cast stopped short; the line was fouled inside the closed-faced reel. With his minnow lying out there without any

Your Weekly Fishing Calendar			
BEST	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
May 30 31		May 26 27 29 June 1 2	May 28

control he took the cover or face of the reel off to make a repair. The line was wound tightly on the spool and would not peel off.

With a tangled line and an inoperative reel in his hand the float begun to travel. A fish had taken the minnow. George feverishly untangled the line and secured the face. The finger picked up the line and he cranked away to get a tight line on the fish. Thinking that a catfish or bream might have been hooked he set the hook casually. That idea changed when his rod bent and he had to hold on. The fish never surfaced but stayed deep and swam figure eights. Finally reeling the fish near the bank he could see that a largemouth bass was on. When a fish comes into sight and is discovered to be a big bass, everything changes; facial expressions and the whole gauntlet of emotions.

The bass went out again but George reeled it back to the bank and with one desperate effort the bass was flung up on the bank. The

bass was poorly hooked and flopped off the hook. With a bit of scampering and foot work George placed himself between the water's edge and the fish; hand sweeping it back to safety.

George Gunter was still wet and on cloud nine what with all of the excitement of landing two large fish minutes apart. Such makes a day of good fishing. The next time out I hope George will test his reel for casting and check the water for depth before he takes a plunge. The next 3 pound bass may not be so obliging as to allow itself to be dragged up the bank. To be sure of landing a bass the fish should be played out then lifted from the water by the bottom lip.

Charlie Chester is back this week and should get some recognition for a three bass catch and an 18 and one-half pound turtle; caught at the number 5 hole on Salem Lake.

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- '73 MONTE CARLO.** Power steering & brakes, AIR brown with beige top & interior, wire hub caps SHARP.
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