

Found that <sup>400303-12</sup> ~~the lake~~ shore line from the Mud Lake-Utah Lake channel, south was matted for 10-30 feet back with bush stems. This collection of rushes which covered the shore line were either from the mud lake area and had drifted south upon entering Utah Lake or were the results of the cutting ice floes of Utah Lake proper. Returned after getting drunk at well. Fragmites still in large stands at channel. Hundreds of Redwings were collected in Tamarix on south side of channel and were raising the clouds with their song. Sun now getting low. At the water gauge gates on south creek found 2 Great blue heron. They left and one returned and circled over head and calling like they do when on their breeding grounds. The dog was no doubt the subject of this expressed curiosity. In crossing north to drainage canal found that the cockleburrs literally carpeted the surface of the dry lake bed as the result of a fire that had swept through there at one time and had burned out everything except the burrs. Returned to car as sun just sunk behind distant ranges. The fire that had been purposely started at the extreme east end of rushes of old mud lake was now burning furiously along the entire front sending flames high into the air and unfolding a column of smoke sky-high. 28 Canadian Geese crossed the western skyline toward the north as they left mud lake to fly to the big lake; other geese were still calling to the north, probably preparing to leave however. On road from lake area saw one jack rabbit. The most upsetting feature of the entire trip besides the frequent and undeterminable bumps in the roadway was the realization that man alone had completely destroyed the true value of this marsh land which once was such an enjoyment & thrill to visit years ago. Now will it be a very simple thing to bring back this lake to its former status by merely damming off the channel. If however a project is instigated to construct such a dam the results will be artificial. While they may bring back certain forms in great numbers the balance will not be there. and without a balance which is natural, what do we have? Nothing but an artificially created by man which for many has no value of a finer or worthwhile nature. We will be satisfied with unnatural creations for a few years but the time will come when natural processes will be as significant as any religion. In conclusion. Mud lake can be brought back as a natural asset but the scars ~~will~~ can only be obliterated after a period of 40 or 50 years of protection from man.