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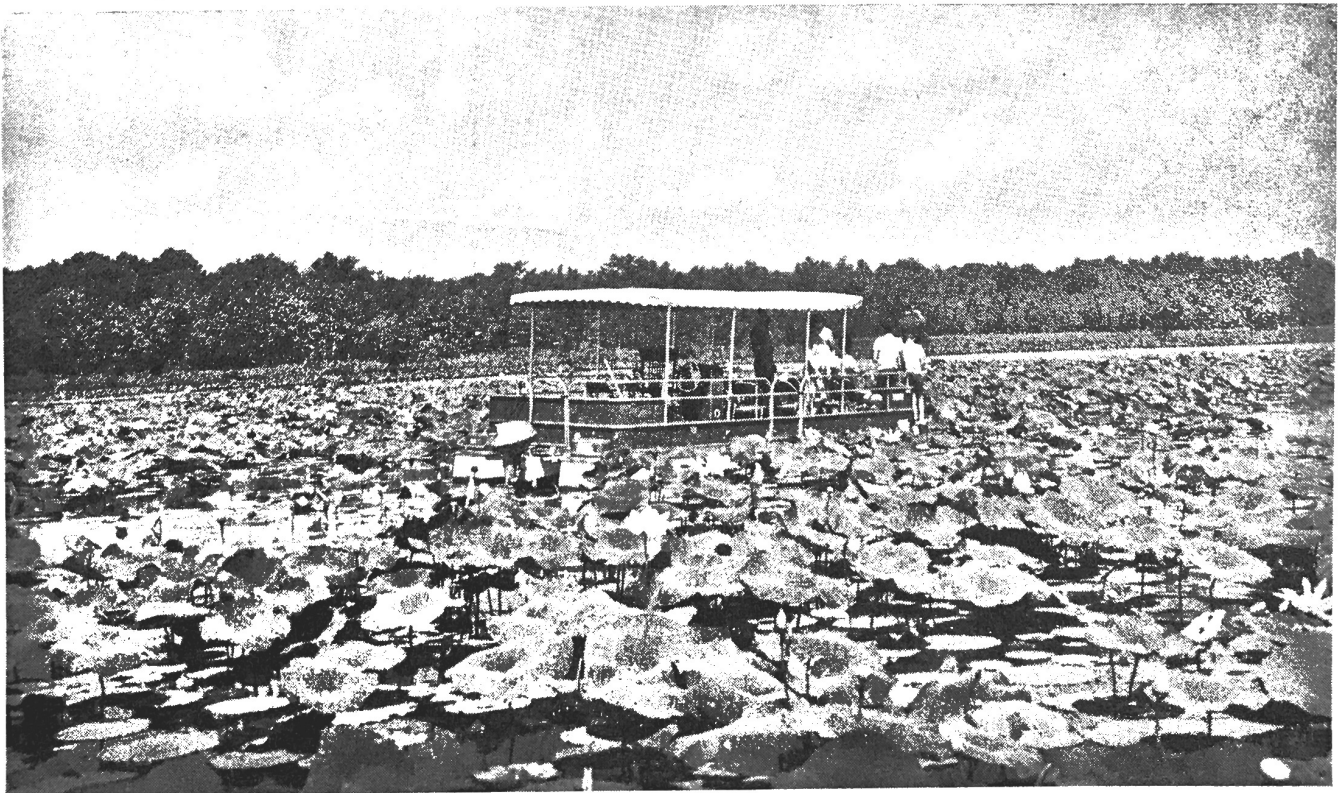
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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE REELFOOT LAKE BIOLOGICAL STATION

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This past year, the Station saw little activity. The summer courses offered by UTM were taught on the campus, and filled to capacity. Field trips sufficed to expose the students to practical field biology, and the facilities at the station were not utilized. It is just not feasible economically to house students at the lake and teach there. Since this is true, we are attempting to refurbish the station to the point where it can be used by small parties of researchers as a base out of which to operate while doing field work in the area. Vandalism reached unparalleled heights this year, and we are renewing attempts to locate a local citizen who owns a trailer home in the hope that we can permit him to park on the station grounds, and perhaps pay his electric bill, in return for keeping an eye on the station. This seems to be the only solution to the vandalism problem. We have tried before to find someone without success, but are making renewed efforts.

A party of faculty from UTM spent some time recently cleaning up around the station, and repairing the door and frame so it can be locked again. Work will continue there soon. Several of our staff members indicate a desire to use the station this summer, and this is the reason for the renewed effort. In addition, one of our staff, currently on leave, will return this summer, and being a limnologist, will hopefully put the station's facilities to good use. A moderate amount of money will have to be spent to put the facilities in operating condition and to maintain them, but if the indications hold true, the station should see some use this summer. I also plan to draft a letter to the heads of all Biology Departments in the state notifying them of the availability of space and telling them exactly what facilities are there. Hopefully, such publicity may awaken some interest in field work in West Tennessee, where such interest seems to have waned in recent years.



Photograph of Reelfoot Lake courtesy of Tennessee Conservation Department.