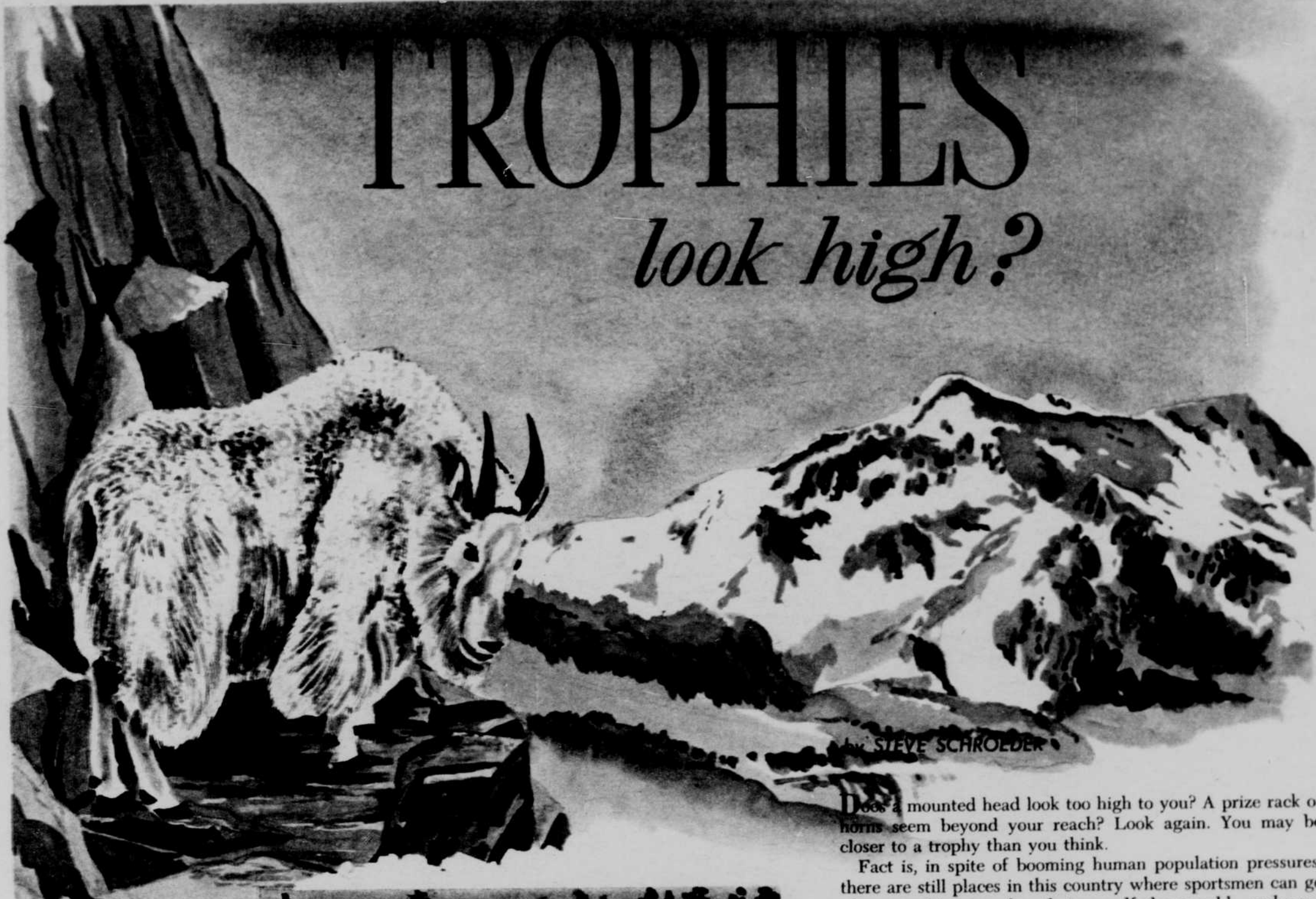


TROPHIES

look high?



Does a mounted head look too high to you? A prize rack of horns seem beyond your reach? Look again. You may be closer to a trophy than you think.

Fact is, in spite of booming human population pressures, there are still places in this country where sportsmen can go after more big game than their grandfathers could—and practice conservation in the bargain.

Popular belief to the contrary, the whitetail deer is not a lover of the forest primeval. He prefers young, brushy woodlands, especially those with irregular edges and openings, so he follows close on the heels of lumbering and small-scale farming. Thus there are many more whitetails in the United States today than there were 100 years ago.

As a matter of fact, the whitetail is present in such numbers in some spots that he threatens to eat himself out of house and home. As state after state seeks to crop its deer herd down to the capacity of its deer range, we are seeing regulations that permit the shooting of either sex over an extended season, and in areas close to big cities where the crack of a rifle has not been heard for a generation.



In the western states the mule deer takes the place of the whitetail. He, too, is thriving where intelligent management practices can be followed.

More and more hunters are also experiencing the thrill of going after two other trophy species in the west. One is the elk, or wapiti, he of the rocking-chair horns, now present again in good numbers in and around Wyoming. The other target is the antelope, or pronghorn, the only American representative of a family with many famous branches in Africa. You don't have to "pack in" to reach these animals, but it's well to have a rifle with a long, flat trajectory and a scope sight.

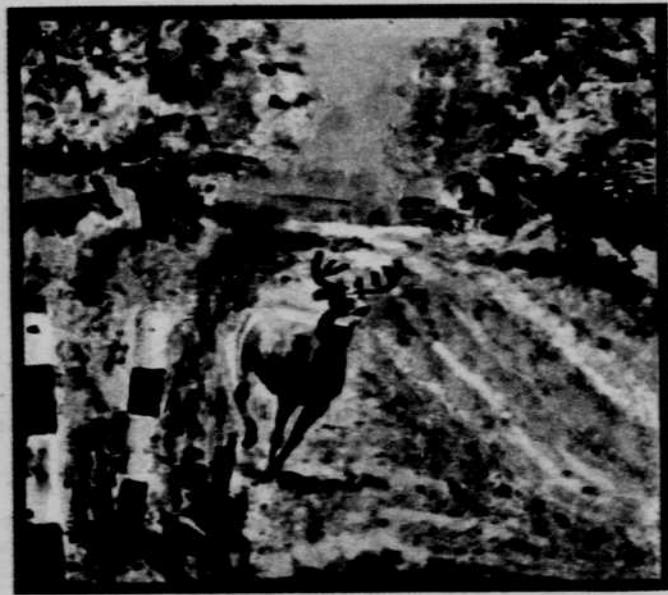
The black bear, too, is back again on the list of shootable animals in many states. Oddly enough, it is tourist garbage dumps that are responsible for the jump in his population.

All told, the United States trophy situation is such this fall that a fine set of horns is in reach of many a hunter, thanks to a bountiful Nature that won't let civilization keep her down.

"PACKING IN" is the stylish way to penetrate big game country. While deer may dwell close to busy crossroads, sheep, goats, and grizzlies are intolerant of human habitation. Amidst the grandest, wildest scenery, above the timberline, these species live in serene isolation.



BIG GAME COUNTRY, once wrote Stewart Edward White, is often straight up and down: "We found ourselves looking over the sheer brink of a precipice."



THE WHITETAIL DEER was the first big game animal killed for food by the pioneers, and yet it has been said "it will be the last of the large hoofed animals of North America to become extinct." The U.S. has more than 100 years ago.