

Rapid Destruction Of Wildlife Going On In The United States

Among other things which have been brought about by the destruction of the conservation of natural resources. Especially the conservation of soils, animals and plants receiving considerable attention.

Up to a few generations ago people thought the supply of wild game and forests was unlimited. Forests were removed and the lumbermen followed and worked practically all merchantable timber from their holdings. This condition was brought about by our system of taxation, more intensive as well as more agricultural practices forced into operation.

Some of these operations have a profound influence on wild animals. In the pioneering days people considered more than edible and fur bearing animals. During those days more game and fur bearing animals existed for every one and no one had any interest in them except to devise methods by which they could be captured with less effort.

Wild Life Destroyed

The methods of destroying our wild life were early deplored because the final result was more permanent. The alarming decrease in many forms of wild animals is slow to receive consideration. It has been too slow in many cases. After reading about the killing of car loads of messenger pigeons in Michigan and where it might be easy to imagine why these birds have nearly passed out of existence. The last health has likewise been lost. Others have perished and still others are in danger at the present time.

There has been a great shrinkage in nearly all forms of wild life. As the game animals become less plentiful a little more for them arose. While formerly they were hunted almost solely for food they are now hunted more in the light of sport. The supply does not even begin to approach the demand. In many instances the demand is a reason for the decrease. Man has blamed everyone else including his neighbor but never himself. It was to blame natural enemies, man never wanted to implicate himself in that category.

Cause For Decrease

Since there was a great supply of all forms of wild animals this continent before white men came it would seem more logical that he take full responsibility for any decrease.

"Other than natural elements," Ross O. Stevens, head of Wildlife Department of the Erosion Service, "a large of the changes in wild animal populations might be attributed to two factors: (1) the increasing number of people kill and (2) the changes which have come about in environments. It is easy to see how first might decrease the supply. In many instances the gun, stool trap and the dead-fall have been major factors in the destruction. However, in all fairness to the hunter, it should be noted that this has sometimes been overemphasized. At present trapping and trapping are taking more than a just portion of the total increase."

Man can be more justly criticized," Mr. Stevens continues, "for changes he has brought about in environment and natural habits. All operations dealing with land and plants thereon influence the native wild animals. A rule these influences have been detrimental. Homes and living places have been destroyed. Food and cover have been seriously reduced and the interference of these basic requirements has been such that a large portion of the land is not producing maximum number of animals."

Man's Influence

In many instances man's operations have made conditions more favorable for undesirable species. Many species of mice and rats had new homes created. Rats have responded very readily to suitable manmade environments. These in turn have made more suitable the chances for reduction and survival of many other flesh eating animals. And by destroying environments favorable for our desirable animals, man is creating environment more favorable for undesirable animals by ruthlessly reducing the number of natural enemies of desirable animals, in many instances man has in large measure brought about the present reduced supply of beneficial animals.

Game Management

Wildlife conservation means management and development of all plants and animals on the land under consideration so that maximum values will be realized. In many places where game animals have become scarce efforts have been made to increase the supply. In nearly all cases only the species of game

animals desired and their natural enemies have been considered. These have been attempts at game management. Nearly all such attempts, sooner or later, have run into snags. It is being found that to manage an area properly all animals, from those composed of no cell through the insects, amphibians, reptiles, fishes, birds, and mammals, must be considered. Game managements rapidly giving way to wildlife conservation."

It is this broad viewpoint which is being taken by the wildlife conservation department of the Soil Erosion Service. While we are giving considerable attention to the bobwhite, quail and other game animals we are not overlooking the results our work might have on other species. In general, the song and insect eating birds have been gradually decreasing. The Soil Erosion Service is anxious to change this condition and make it possible for the birds to more successfully reproduce themselves and to more effectively do their part in controlling insects and other harmful animals.

New Field

The field of wildlife conservation is relatively new. It is very interesting and offers no end to study and research. All plants and animals of an area must be taken into consideration if maximum benefits are to be realized. There should be a definite understanding between game management and wildlife conservation.

To Hear McLean On Security Act

Assistant To Cummings Will Appear Before Senatorial Committee

Washington, May 7.—The administration's viewpoint on the constitutionality of the special security bill will be given to the Senate Finance Committee tomorrow morning by Assistant Solicitor-General A. D. McLean.

The constitutionality of the bill has become a matter of great present interest, because of the implications in the majority of opinion in which the Supreme Court yesterday by a five-to-four decision held the railroad pension law invalid.

Following the decision yesterday, Senator Joseph T. Robinson, majority leader, requested the committee to re-examine the constitutionality of the bill in the light of the decision and the committee requested Attorney-General Homer S. Cummings to appear before it for that purpose. Mr. Cummings today designated Mr. McLean to give the view of the department.

The North Carolinian some weeks ago upheld the constitutionality of the bill before the House Committee on Ways and Means and his statement was highly complimented by members of the committee.

Mr. MacLean has also been designated by the Attorney-General to give the views of the department on all questions which may arise under the work relief act.

Asserts Press Aided By Code

Newspaper Conditions Improved Under NRA, Editors Are Told

New Orleans, May 8.—A strong appeal for complete freedom of the press was coupled by Kenneth F. Baldrige of Bloomfield, Iowa, president of the National Editorial association, with a statement today that since the newspaper code was put in effect "conditions are better than they were".

In his annual address before the association, Baldrige reviewed its first half century, declaring it was "marked with progress" and that the N. E. A. bears an impressive influence on the thought of the nation. Some 500 editors and publishers are attending the meeting here.

"There never have been, in this country, really free newspapers," Baldrige said, "for the papers have been subservient to political interests or to pet aggrandizements of their owners. And today, the freedom of the press is in greater peril than ever before, because of the growing demagoguery on the one hand and the increasing bourbonism on the other."

CONDITIONS IMPROVE.

Discussing the effect of the newspaper code, Baldrige said: "The code has been a disappointment to many who expected a millennium to eventuate immediately, but the facts are that conditions are better than they were; and country newspapers and printers are enjoying a mea-

sure of prosperity and can once again find time for the problems of the golf score."

The opening session of the convention, which will continue throughout the week, was attended by editors and publishers from nearly every state. The various state associations have planned individual meetings during the course of the convention.

Tobacco Crop Is Well Advanced

At Least 90 Per Cent Already Set, According To Wilson Observer

Wilson, May 15.—The farmers in Eastern North Carolina have been extremely busy the past 15 days. I am informed at least 90 per cent of tobacco has been set which makes it one of the earliest crops in several years," said M. Z. Moore, veteran Wilson tobaccoist.

"There are a great many who have repainted and have a perfect stand. On account of cold, dry, windy weather there are reports of some having right much replanting to do most of which will be completed next week."

"Since the acreage control system came in effect, the farmers have been cautious in selecting varieties of improved seeds and fertilizers most suitable to the soils, every one trying to make a good quality of tobacco. We have been cultivating tobacco so long the farmers grow it in a scientific manner."

"Years ago when wrappers and tobacco of texture were in demand, the farmers had their rows from 3 1/2 to 4 feet distance, set the plants 3 feet distance in the row, and topped out a certain amount of leaves down the stalk, leaving fewer leaves to mature and ripen, and since there are less wrappers needed for chewing tobacco, and the demand is entirely for smoking tobacco and cigarettes, the farmers place their rows the same distance apart, using more, and a better fertilizer in proportion to the fertility of the soil, and set the tobacco from 18 to 30 inches apart in the row, an average of 24 inches, and leave from 4 to 8 leaves to the plant to mature, more than for wrappers, in fact a great many farmers do not top their tobacco, while I think that a mistake. I think the button should be broken out if all the leaves are left, yet they continue to do it year after year, and must be obtaining satisfactory results."

"Curing a crop of tobacco is the most important work. A good crop can be damaged or the value ruined in the curing. Men used to get good salaries to supervise curing tobacco but now almost every tenant cures his own tobacco successfully."

"The sad appearance and dissatisfied countenance worn two or three years ago by the farmers and tenants has disappeared, and changed back to that natural optimistic expectation of receiving a fair price for this year's production of tobacco. They feel certain they will receive around sure of prosperity and can once again find time for the problems of the golf score."

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parity price proposed by "Uncle Sam" and that they are running no risk of having to take 10 or 12 cents a pound as they did a few years ago. The crop has been increased some, but there is no way to foretell the amount of tobacco that will be made, or to guess the price it will bring, as it all depends on the seasons. Ninety days from now the bulk of the tobacco will be in the pack houses, and then a closer estimate can be made both as to pounds and prices."

Rails Get Bigger Share Of Berries

This Week Sees Less Truck Activity In N. C. Deal And Better Market

New York, May 10.—It looked like old times at the Jersey City ball grounds on Wednesday; 23 cars of North Carolina strawberries arrived for distribution here. It has been quite a few years since the rail movement from the South has reached these proportions. Over 60 cars have arrived by rail for the entire week.

The local truckmen, the receivers and even the buyers were more than glad to see the berry business by rail again. This helped the market considerably and caused a better feeling all around. Quality of the berries showed up fine, and distribution was more orderly.

This increase in rail arrivals greatly diminished the truck movement of berries from the Carolinas. A fast schedule has been inaugurated by the Atlantic Coast Line and the Pennsylvania Railroad, giving a running time between the shipping points and Jersey City of 24-hours. The train arrives between 10 and 11 P. M. Daylight Saving Time, which gives receivers ample time to bring the berries to the market.

It is generally predicted that the success of this rail movement this week will be an inducement to other growers to do likewise. Truck shipments of berries and other vegetables from the South have proven in the past the cause of demoralized markets arriving as they do at all hours of the day and night to the detriment of the grower, shipper and receiver.

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Legion Auto Show And Exposition

Members Of The Whiteville Post Number 137, American Legion, Will Sponsor Program From May 27 To June 1

Officials of the Legion Auto Show and Exposition that will open in Whiteville beginning on Monday, May 27th, and continuing through Saturday, June 1st, report that all plans are maturing nicely for the big event.

The public generally is aware of the fact that this is being staged under the auspices of Whiteville Post No. 137 of American Legion and is a preliminary matter looking toward a Fall Fair.

The Big Crutchfield Tobacco Warehouse with floor space of 55,000 feet will, when completed, as to decorations Auto Space and Merchants Commercial booth, be a gorgeous sight.

J. A. Maultsby, who is chairman of Space Committee, states that in his opinion all space will be sold long before the event opens the major part to local concerns, but there will be good

exhibits also from out of town exhibitors who have for years done nice business in this territory.

One of the best known Orchestras in North Carolina, Hal Thurston and his eleven artists, of Rocky Mount, have been engaged to furnish music for acts and the nightly dances and there will be both round and square dances with a real hot time bunch of artists.

W. W. Schulken, chairman of the Ticket Committee, advises that he has made arrangements with the Auxiliary of the Legion to handle season tickets in the entire section and they are now starting their drive.

T. B. Smith, Manager, states that contracts have been signed with performers for nine high class circus vaudeville acts that will show the entire program each night, that the acts are a versatile lot of good repeaters and the public generally will be delighted with this part of the event.

Officials further say that everything has progressed to the point where the Auto Show and Exposition will get every consideration with close co-operation and be a huge success.

The good parties are the ones you miss.

Seeking Recruits For Marine Corps

Examination of 50 applicants for entrance in the Marine Corps will be held at the Marine Corps Headquarters, Savannah, Ga., during the month of May, it is announced by Major Louis Estell Fagan, officer in charge.

The Marine Corps accepts only young men who are graduates of high school or have equivalent or higher education at other schools, and who are not less than 66 inches tall, and who are over 18-years of age. If under 21 years old consent of parents is required.

The Savannah office considers applicants from Virginia, North and South Carolina, Florida and South Georgia, and is the only office where applicants in these States are examined. Applications will be mailed upon request.

Miss Virginia Brayson, of Union Mills, Rutherford County, has renovated an old orchard of 3,500 trees in the short period of three years and made it a profitable enterprise.

A net profit of \$38 a head over feed cost is reported by C. A. Brown, of Cleveland, Rowan County, who has fed and sold one lot of 50 steers.

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