



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Information



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FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD LAW HELD CONSTITUTIONAL.
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Washington, D. C., June 4. The constitutionality of the Federal Migratory-Bird Treaty Act approved July 3, 1918, is upheld in an opinion rendered to-day by Federal Judge Jacob Træber of the Eastern District of Arkansas in the case of United States against E. D. Thompson, of Memphis, Tenn., charged with killing and possessing one robin in violation of the act.

This is one of the most important decisions ever rendered affecting the conservation of wild life. It sustains the right of Congress to enact legislation to insure the execution of the terms of the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain concluded August 16, 1916, for the protection of migratory birds in the United States and Canada.

It will be recalled that Judge Trieber in 1914 in the case of United States against Harvey C. Shauver, decided that the Migratory-Bird Law approved March 4, 1913, was unconstitutional. The present law repealed the act of 1913.

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