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BIOLOGICAL SURVEY CHIEF HAILS  
NATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR WILD LIFE

A new national movement for the restoration of a wild-life heritage that has well nigh vanished was hailed yesterday (January 24) by Paul G. Redington, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in an address at the American Game Conference in New York.

Speaking on "The Future Job of the Biological Survey," Mr. Redington assured members of the conference that the Bureau is prepared to take its responsible part in this movement. Despite recent reductions in appropriations, he expressed a conviction that the Biological Survey is looking forward to a greater usefulness and greater accomplishments than ever before. He pointed to "recent astonishing evidences of interest" in wild life problems by the American public and, referring especially to a movement for establishing wild-fowl sanctuaries, declared that investigations by the Biological Survey have already provided a basis for this work. "We know," said Mr. Redington, "what areas should be acquired, what titles must be obtained, and the expense involved."

Mr. Redington praised the land-utilization program recently announced by Secretary Wallace, and now being considered by the committee he has appointed on wild-life restoration. This program would devote approximately \$12,000,000 to profitable use in developing wild-fowl refuges within nesting areas. "I am con-

fidant," Mr. Redington said, "that if the plan is approved and put into effect it cannot fail to produce results of the greatest importance and should considerably relieve a situation which justifies the alarm of everyone who desires the perpetuation of the sport of wildfowling."

The full benefits of sanctuaries, however, will not be immediately apparent, he explained, and stressed the necessity for conserving the breeding stocks of ducks and geese. We cannot, he said, restore the missing millions of the birds in the relatively short space of a year or two, no matter how generous may be the contributions for the work.

Among other means for assisting the birds, the Biological Survey chief included prevention of grazing on nesting grounds, local control of the species that at times prey heavily upon waterfowl, promotion of the production and distribution of food plants, fire control, the reflooding of drained lands when practicable, and reduction of the losses from disease.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Redington discussed the early history of the Biological Survey, which is now approaching its 50th anniversary. He dwelt on the scientific accomplishments of the Bureau and the continuing importance of research in wild-life administration. He traced the development of the Bureau's regulatory work and briefly described the essential purposes of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Lacey Act, and the Alaska Game Law.

Through research the Survey, said its chief, has brought together information that is the basis for bird-protective laws, both State and Federal, acknowledged to be the best upon the statute books of any nation, and it has developed methods for the repression of forms of wild life injurious to game and domestic stock. The cooperative study of tularemia in rabbits and other game is a direct service to the health of thousands of our citizens. The studies of the Survey have assisted in the building up of the industry engaged in producing and distributing wild-duck food plants, a service that will be increasingly important in future projects to create, reclaim, or improve the areas so necessary for the increase and maintenance of these birds. In an educational program, the Survey has issued more than 250 publications for popular distribution dealing with some 500 species of wild life. More than 7,000,000 of these have been distributed and have had an untold influence for wise conservation in this country.