



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

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Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes today called upon the sportsmen of America to make their contribution to the war program by saving all discharged shotgun shells and rifle cartridges, the down feathers of waterfowl, and by retrieving all crippled birds and animals.

"Sportsmen, skeet shooters, and other users of shotgun shells and rifle cartridges," declared the Secretary, "can make a valuable contribution towards winning the war by saving all discharged shells and turning them in at scrap receiving centers for their brass content.

"I anticipate that this appeal to conserve brass that may be reclaimed for war use will meet with a rapid and hearty response. If each person will do his part, we should add more than 2,000 tons to our present stocks of this vital war material."

An additional service can be rendered by removing the small piece of steel found in the compartment base of shotgun shells, it was pointed out. This is done by prying and picking it out.

Another important contribution can be made by hunters this year, Secretary Ickes added, by saving the short down feathers of wild ducks and geese. The down is used in garments for aviators flying at high altitudes in intense cold, and by other members of the armed forces. Sportsmen can dispose of the feathers they have through State and Federal game wardens.

Hunters also were admonished to refrain from shooting at waterfowl out of killing range in order to keep at a minimum the number of crippled and wounded birds. Extra efforts should be taken to retrieve all wounded ducks and geese to prevent waste. Care should be taken of all birds counted in the bag to prevent spoilage and no birds should be wasted.

With rationing of meat soon to go into effect in certain sections of the country, Secretary Ickes pointed out that birds and animals taken by hunters this fall can be consumed at home and thus release a corresponding amount of fresh meat for the armed forces and for Lend-Lease requirements.