

9-20-1923

## Resolution 1923-07-07 Winneshiek Bottoms

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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way to summer climes when winter is over. But our friends depart one by one, each taking with him a part of the sunshine of our lives. It is alone that we must descend into the valley and shadow of death; and many a stout heart shrinks from that last and lonely tragedy that would not flinch in the hour of battle.

RESOLVED, That it be publicly declared that in our unanimous opinion Mark L. Alexander, in the course of his long and useful career, displayed in the highest degree the many virtues that tend to the good of the cause of conservation of wild life, and to the elevation of the standards of public and private life. Conscientious in all relations, generous, charitable, kindly disposed to all men, his high moral excellence remains an inspiration and a striking example.

I move the adoption of the resolution.

**President Adams:** I would suggest that the secretary send a copy of this resolution to the late Mr. Alexander's two daughters and son.

**Mr. Avery:** The committee intended to suggest that, and also to the Department of Conservation of the state of Louisiana.

**Mr. Berwick:** As representative of the Conservation Department of the state of Louisiana, from the bottom of my heart I want to thank this organization for the splendid sentiments which they have expressed in the resolution just presented.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**Mr. Avery:** The next resolution is with regard to the Public Shooting Ground-Game Refuge Bill.

Whereas the situation with reference to breeding, feeding, and wintering areas for waterfowl continues to grow more critical and the need for segregating such remaining areas permanently for the purpose of preservation of waterfowl is urgent,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That this Association urges the enactment of the so-called Public Shooting Ground-Game Refuge Bill and pledges its active and earnest support of the said bill in the form as prepared for introduction in the next Congress.

**President Adams:** I suggest now that all the resolutions be read, then we can vote on them as a whole.

**Mr. Avery:** The next resolution has not been drafted, but the Committee wishes to report the same resolution as was adopted by the American Fisheries Society with reference to drainage, particularly the proposed drainage of the Winneshiek bottoms. Most of you heard that resolution read during the meetings of the American Fisheries Society. It condemns indiscriminate and unnecessary drainage in general and the proposed drainage of the upper Mississippi bottoms in particular, especially the Winneshiek bottoms, now under consideration. It sets forth various reasons, among others, that indiscriminate and general drainage for the purpose of increasing agricultural lands is not necessary at this time, and that these areas now covered with water, valuable as they are for breeding grounds for our waterfowl and fishes, are of more value to the public as such than they would be for any other purpose. We wish to offer that resolution.

**Mr. Holland:** I suggest that there be added to that resolution a provision that copies of it be sent to the United States Secretary of Agriculture, the United States Secretary of War, and the President of the United States.

**President Adams:** And the Governors of Wisconsin and Minnesota.

**Mr. Leach:** I suggest also that copies be sent to the various sporting magazines, such as the Fishing Gazette, the Pacific Fisherman, Field and Stream, the publication of the Isaak Walton League, and so on.

**Mr. Avery:** The next resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, The construction of dams for the development of hydro-electric power or for the conserving of surplus water during the spring, thereby preventing floods, results in the creation of lakes which may be kept open to the public at all times during the open seasons for hunting, fishing or trapping, and also for boating, and which likewise furnish some of our best egg-collecting fields, thereby providing a means of perpetuating and conserving fishing for future generations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners, in session assembled, at St. Louis, September 20, 1923, that such projects are approved as being the means for conserving surplus waters, affording refuge for birds and fish, and providing recreational pleasures for the American public.

The next resolution is in support of Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson's work on International protection:

The members of the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners, in convention assembled at St. Louis, September 20, 1923, desire to express their appreciation of the significance of the work abroad of Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson for the protection of the birds of southern and central Europe, and to offer such co-operation as it is in their power to extend in connection with the distribution of leaflets and other work the purpose of which is to drive home the facts as to the cruelty and reckless waste so graphically described by Mr. Pearson to the immigrants to this country from southern Europe.

The last resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, The members of this Association are deeply appreciative of the many acts of courtesy extended to them during this convention.

THEREFORE, We do hereby extend our thanks and express our gratitude to His Honor, Mayor Henry W. Kiel for the courteous greetings extended through his able and brilliant secretary, Mr. Findly; to the St. Louis Convention and Publicity Bureau for numerous courtesies extended; to the management of the Statler Hotel for the use of convention halls and other conveniences, and especially to our honored and respected member, Mr. John P. Woods, of St. Louis, for his efficient management of the details of the convention and for the manner in which he has superintended all the arrangements which have resulted in so satisfactory and enjoyable a meeting.

**Mr. Baskett:** I move, sir, with the permission of the delegates here who, in large part, are the same as those in attendance at the meetings of the American Fisheries Society, that the following resolution, similar in terms to that adopted by the American Fisheries Society, be adopted by this Association with reference to the Izaak Walton League of America.

WHEREAS, The activities of the Izaak Walton League of America, its purposes, ideals and policies have been brought so prominently before the public within the past few months, and

WHEREAS, The saving of the fish, game, forests, and streams of the United States and Canada is imperative at this time, the conditions of wastefulness and indifference having become almost a crime, and their correction an emergency, and