

9-9-1921

Resolution 1921-01-04 The Public Shooting Ground-Game Refuge Bill

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRTEENTH CONVENTION
OF THE
**International Association
of Game, Fish and
Conservation
Commissioners**

ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 8 AND 9, 1921

GREENHALGH PRINTING COMPANY
NEW YORK



HONORE MERCIER

President, International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation
Commissioners, Quebec, Canada

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Next convention to be held at Madison, Wisconsin,
September 4-5, 1922.

**THIRTEENTH CONVENTION INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF GAME, FISH AND CONSERVATION COMMISSIONERS**

INDEX

	Page
First Session: Thursday morning, September 8.	
Convention called to order.....	7
Address of Welcome, Mayor Gross.....	7
Response, Mr. Barber.....	9
Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting.....	9
Report of Treasurer.....	10
Discussion	11
"Washington Fisheries Questions"—Mr. Darwin.....	14
Discussion	21
"The Interfusion of Politics and Wild Life", Mr. Woods.....	21
Discussion	25
Recess	37
Second Session: Friday morning.	
Appointment of Convention Committees.. ..	38
"Federal Warden Organization," Mr. George A. Lawyer.....	40
Discussion	42
Report of committee appointed to audit Treasurer's Report.	45
"Will Our Vanishing Game Be Saved?" Dr. Wm. T. Hornaday..	46
"Public Shooting Grounds and Game Refuges," Mr. Carlos Avery.	58
Paper on Influence of the Fishing Industry Upon the World at Large— Mr. Honore Mercier	66
Recess	70
Third Session: Friday afternoon.	
"The Fight to Preserve Reelfoot Lake," Mr. Joseph H. Acklen. . .	71
Discussion	77
"Some of the Vital Problems of Game and Fish Conservation," Mr. John H. Wallace	78
Discussion.	82
Report of Committee on Resolutions	83
Report of Committee on Nominations	85
Report of Committee on Time and Place.....	85
Letter of Game and Fish Commissioner of Missouri.....	86
Appointment and Report of Committee to notify Mr. Mercier of his election as President	88
Address by Mr. Adams	91
Discussion	95
Adjournment	105

are honored by having him a member of this organization, and we ought to thank him for being present at practically every convention of this organization. He is faithful to the cause, and he is giving us enlightenment and directing us in a way that when we go back home we cannot forget. When he was speaking here to-day I thought of how I would like to have him come into our State and deliver three or four lectures. I think he could be well employed in traveling through the different States preaching this gospel, because he does preach it in fine style.

Are there any further remarks?

Mr. Hart: There is no man in this room who owes as much to Colonel Wallace as we in Virginia owe him. We have fashioned our bill after his bill, and he came up there and helped us.

President Barber: Are there any further remarks?

Mr. Sellers: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—I am extremely sorry that Colonel Wallace has not gone into full details as to what might be used in the educational way that he desires. I have for years thought that the organization of sportsmen was a grand institution, but they unfortunately had a job too large for them as a class, when it came to conservation. I would be perfectly willing to give wide distribution to those remarks, because of the clarion message that I long ago had heard on that same question. I think it is a beautiful message of co-operation that we need, because I do not think any citizen of this country can escape a duty of conservation. That is the logical manner in which it should be brought about. Every institution, every organized body, civic or otherwise, should be reached upon this question in order to put it over properly. I repeat that I think that was one of the most beautiful messages of co-operation that I have ever heard, and it was very necessary and essential to this work. I regret that I did not have an opportunity to distribute it in a great many places where it would be very educational. As an angler, I hold similar views. Personally, I would restrict a great many of the murderous devices that are now on sale in the stores for the capture of fish, because I do not believe it is strict sportsmanship to use some of them. Some of them are of a murderous character, and we will in time find it necessary to legislate some of them out of use.

President Barber: Are there any further remarks?

Colonel Wallace: If you will call for the reports of the committees, I have this report ready, Mr. Chairman.

President Barber: Yes; it is time for the reports of the committees. The Committee on Resolutions.

Colonel Wallace: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—Your Committee on Resolutions reports Resolution No. 1:

RESOLVED, That we most heartily endorse and commend for early passage the bill pending in Congress, known as the Public Shooting Ground-Game Refuge Bill, the passage of which measure is vitally important to the conservation of migratory water fowl and necessary in order to furnish the masses of the people an adequate shooting area to the end that they may have an opportunity of taking their share of migratory birds.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Chairman of the Senate and House Committees before which the bill is pending, and also to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

In order to get it before the convention, I move the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Sellers: I second the motion.

(The motion was put and carried unanimously.)

Colonel Wallace: Here is our second resolution. It does not commit anybody to anything, but it is going to lodge this idea in everybody's minds, if you do pass this resolution:

RESOLVED, That we recommend that when practicable and in the opinion of the Commissioner such action is necessary to the preservation of any particular species, that the bag limits on game and fish, also the open seasons, be reduced. (Applause.)

I move that that resolution be adopted.

Mr. Phillips: I second that motion.

(The motion was put and unanimously carried.)

Mr. Wallace: Here is our third resolution:

"We, the members of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, desire to express our deep appreciation of the unbounded hospitality and many courtesies extended by the citizens of Allentown during our convention.

"We wish to acknowledge special obligation to the Mayor and other city officials for their courtesies; to the Chamber of Commerce for delightful entertainment furnished; to Gen. Henry C. Trexler, and Messrs. Harry A. Grammes, J. Frank Grammes and Chas. W. Grammes and Geo. H. Hardner and their associates for their generous and lavish hospitality; to the members of the State Game and Fish Commission for their courtesies, and to the Allentown press for the exceptionally full, intelligent and serious manner in which the proceedings of our convention have been reported and published."

I move we adopt the resolution.

Mr. Phillips: I second the motion.

(The motion was put and passed unanimously.)

Mr. Hart: Mr. President, I would like to offer a resolution from the floor:

"WHEREAS, The officers and field inspectors of the Bureau of Biological Survey and the Bureau of Fisheries are constantly rendering valuable services to the various State Game and Fish Departments, and

"WHEREAS, In their field work it is often necessary that they hide their identity and are forced to purchase hunting and fishing licenses or be guilty of breaking the State law,

"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this Association that the accredited representatives of the Bureau of Biological Survey and the Bureau of Fisheries should not be required to take out