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Resolution 1919-06-13 Support for Increasing the Funding to Enforce the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Report of the secretary and president relative to efforts to secure reduction in rates for transportation of fish cars, discussions of these reports and appointment of a committee to continue efforts in this direction with the United States railroad administration are omitted for the reason that the roads have since been returned to private control and the matter of rates will be handled direct by the several states in dealing with the railroad companies.

The auditing committee reported having audited the books of the treasurer and found them correct, the report was accepted.

The committee on time and place made no report but was authorized to confer with a like committee of the American Fisheries Society and to make its report to the president. The committee later recommended that the next meeting be held at Ottawa, Canada, on Thursday and Friday, September 23 and 24, 1920.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following report of the resolutions committee was adopted:

Resolved, That the publicity committee of this association be, and they are hereby, directed to inaugurate, as soon as possible a nation-wide campaign throughout the American continent for the purpose of educating the people relative to the economic and recreational value of birds, game and fish, their relation to the comfort, the happiness and the prosperity of man, and the necessity for the preservation of this great natural resource.

Resolved, That the Bureau of Biological Survey be, and is hereby, requested to grant permits to protect the fish resources of the country from destruction by the bittern, blue heron and night heron.

Resolved, That the thanks of the members of this association be, and they are hereby, extended to the citizens of Kentucky and especially of Louisville and particularly to the members of the Kentucky Game and Fish Commission for the cordial welcome we have received and for the splendid hospitality which has been so graciously dispensed to us during this convention.

Resolved, That the members of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners deeply deplore the illness of his excellency, the Hon. Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States, and we most earnestly hope that he may be speedily restored to vigorous health and active duty; and

Resolved further, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the private secretary of the president, the Hon. Joseph P. Tumulty.

Resolved, That the members of this convention hereby pledge themselves to use every influence possible toward stimulation of a nation-wide movement looking to the construction of fish ponds upon farms in which desirable species of game and food fishes, especially the basses and the sunfishes, can be propagated for recreation and for food, at a comparatively small expense when contrasted with the vast benefits which will result therefrom.

Whereas, The great service rendered through the department of agriculture, Bureau of Biological Survey, in the enforcement of the migratory bird treaty act, is, and has been of inestimable value to the nation; and

Whereas, The sum of money now appropriated by congress is obviously inadequate to give the police protection needed in each state; therefore, be it.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this association in convention assembled, that the congress be asked to increase the appropriation for the enforcement of the federal migratory bird treaty act, to not less than \$500,000.00 annually, and that the state game commissioners here present individually press this matter with their respective senators and representatives in congress; be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the secretary of agriculture, to the chairman of the agricultural committees of the house and senate, and to the Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge and the Hon. J. W. Mondell, Washington, D. C.

Whereas, The assembling of accurate statistics and information as to the relative abundance of wild animals in various localities and as to the approximate number of each species in the country, as a basis for the formation of policies concerning the same and as a guide to the enactment of protective laws; it is hereby

Resolved, That this association urges the importance of the enactment of laws in the several states for a uniform system of ascertaining the abundance of various species of wild animals, and to this end commends the enactment of such laws as have been placed upon the statute books of Wisconsin, New York and Minnesota, requiring reports from all persons, securing licenses to take wild animals of any species of the number of animals so taken.

Resolved, That a committee be raised consisting of five members to be appointed by the president, which committee shall inquire to and report from time to time:

First—What species of migratory birds pass through or from the United States and temporarily sojourn in the republics of Mexico, Central and South America.

Second—To what extent such birds migrate.

Third—To what extent, if any, such birds are killed in such republics.

Fourth—What game laws are in force, if any, in such republics.

Fifth—What common good, if any can be achieved by the negotiation of treaties or conventions between the United States and such republics for the protection of such migratory birds as migrate between the United States and such countries?

Resolved, Whereas, Dr. Joseph Kalbfus, secretary of the Board of Game and Fish Commissioners of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, an honored member of this association and the pioneer of this country in the establishment of state game refuges and a leader in securing the passage of model game and fish laws, and likewise, their enforcement; and

Whereas, Dr. Kalbfus has departed this life since the last meeting of this convention; now therefore, be it.

Resolved, by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, That in his death this association has lost a wise leader and an able counselor, and its members a true and faithful friend.

Resolved further, That the secretary be, and is hereby, directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of the deceased's family, together with our sincere condolences over their irreparable loss, and also to the Board of Game and Fish Commissioners of Pennsylvania, and likewise to the sportsmen's papers throughout the country.

Resolved, That the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners inaugurated and put into effect a system providing for the exchange of such bulletins and publications as they may, from time to time, issue to their wardens as well as such educational matters as may be issued by their respective bureaus or departments.