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## Resolution 1912-05-05 Appreciation to the State of Colorado

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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The chairman of the Committee on Resolutions moved a vote of thanks to Commissioner Shinn and to the local committee, to W. L. May, Samuel Evans and R. E. Follett for their respective contributions to the success of the convention. Mr. Schaeffle of California presented the invitation of his State to meet there in 1915. Commissioner Mercer of Georgia followed with an invitation to meet in Atlanta. Commissioner Miles of Indiana said that Indianapolis had already extended an invitation, which the speaker seconded most cordially. President Acklen, resuming the chair, then called upon Commissioner Shinn of Colorado, who spoke interestingly, giving personal reminiscences of the development of the work in Colorado since its inception in 1899. He said in part:—

The capacity of the nine hatcheries is 14,000,000 trout; \$60,000 is now invested in these hatcheries. The best hatcheries do not exceed \$2,500 for construction. The spawn is taken from the lakes. When referring to the difficulties of transportation in the country, he spoke of a certain road as "not only not passable, but not even jackass-able." A few deer and antelope are kept in captivity at the Denver hatchery. The antelope in general seek the high open ground, but the deer the shade. The appropriation last year was \$17,050. Receipts from licenses amounted to \$35,533, less 25 per cent. of the license money, which goes for collecting. The licenses are sold by agents, county clerks and sportsmen's stores. Hunters are now paying attention to stocking the streams. He suggested a combination of the hunting and the fishing licenses. In Colorado there are 6,000 miles of trout waters. There were put out last year 11,000,000 trout fingerlings in addition to those furnished by the United States Bureau of Fisheries; 20,000,000 in the past two years, using an automobile for the transportation of the trout. Eyed eggs are shipped successfully to Japan, with a loss of less than 15 per cent. Only a few grizzly bears are now left in Colorado; there are many black bears. There is no close season on bears. Mr. Riley made the statement that about thirty bears were killed in the State of Colorado last year. The cost of collection of licenses is 10 per cent. In Oregon County officers get no additional pay for collecting license money. In Kansas more licenses are sold by the clerks for increasing the commission. Wardens in Colorado sell licenses and take no commission. Judge Beaman of Colorado confirmed this.

Dr. Palmer complimented Commissioner Shinn. He said in part: "License legislation is recent. Colorado, through Judge Beaman's efforts, was one of the pioneers. At that time 25

per cent, was not excessive. Later the States have reduced the cost of collection to 10 per cent., which was a fair compensation. The existing condition is no reflection upon Colorado."

Commissioner Phillips of Pennsylvania was introduced, and jokingly imposed upon Dr. Kalbfus, secretary of the Board, the duty of reading his paper. Incidentally, in the discussion, it was elicited that last year in Pennsylvania over 600 black bears were killed. The increase in bears is due to a close season and to preventing the use of steel traps. Undoubtedly they may in time become a serious menace by killing sheep and pigs, and frightening children.

#### GAME PROTECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Through the adoption of a constructive game preserve policy, white-tailed deer in Pennsylvania, according to the best estimates obtainable, are almost doubling in number every year, and wild turkey and ruffed grouse, the greatest game birds on earth, and other birds and animals native to this State, are increasing rapidly, while the million acres of State forest reserve, on which a few years ago wild life was almost extinct, are being gradually made into the greatest hunting and recreation grounds ever contemplated for the benefit of the people of any State.

Some twenty years ago the thinking sportsmen of the State of Pennsylvania, becoming alarmed at the rapid disappearance of wild life generally in this State, awoke suddenly to a realization of the fact that if it was to be saved to posterity immediate action was necessary to secure its protection and preservation. It was recognized that in order to attain results, a head, to direct and guide the efforts of the sportsmen, was necessary. After considerable agitation, in 1895, by an act of Legislature, the Game Commission was created, empowered to collect data, and to recommend legislation relating to the subject of game and wild bird preservation, and to enforce such laws as might be enacted. The commission was to consist of six sportsmen, appointed by the Governor, who were to serve the State without remuneration in any way.

The commission was particularly fortunate in the first appointments, as the men appointed were enthusiasts on the subject of wild life conservation; besides, they had had considerable experience in protecting birds and animals upon lands under their control. Soon after taking office, the commissioners realized that in order to accomplish results something more than good game laws and their enforcement was necessary, as while this might take care of the game left in the State, no provision was made for increasing the supply.

Having in mind the magnificent results achieved by the federal government through the establishment of national parks and game refuges