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Resolution 1912-01-05 Support for Cooperation with Canada to Protect Migratory Birds

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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SIXTH BIENNIAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

OF

GAME WARDENS AND COMMISSIONERS,

DENVER, COL.

AUG. 29, 1912, TO SEPT. 2, 1912.

BOSTON:
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,
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SIXTH BIENNIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GAME WARDENS AND COMMISSIONERS.

ALBANY HOTEL, DENVER, COL., Aug. 29, 1912.

Meeting called to order at 10.15 A.M. by President T. Gilbert Pearson, who introduced, as one who would present to the association the keys of the city, His Honor Henry Arnold, mayor of Denver. In a jocular vein His Honor claimed that the previous Democratic organization "did not leave even a key to turn over." After briefly outlining several important features which make Denver an attractive residence city, notable among which were free entertainments on Sundays at a cost of \$600 each, the expenditure of \$600 every night for lighting the streets and \$500 every day for laying the dust, His Honor extended a most sincere and hearty welcome to the city.

Hon. J. H. Acklen of Tennessee responded, speaking feelingly of the cordial welcome and of the large ways of doing things in the west. He lauded the wise foresight of Colorado in the passage of the early game laws in 1867, and in enacting one of the most important acts, the so-called "permissive" game law. We are now all conservators. Public spirit has been awakened; every public-spirited citizen is now disseminating information for the benefit of all.

In response to the roll call of States, officially designated delegates responded as follows: —

California,	. . .	Ernest Schaeffle, Secretary, Board of Fish and Game Commissioners.
Colorado,	. . .	Col. James A. Shinn, State Game and Fish Commissioner.
Delaware,	. . .	H. C. Davis, Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Game and Fish Commission.
Georgia,	. . .	Jesse E. Mercer, Commissioner, Department of Game and Fish.
Indiana,	. . .	George W. Miles, Commissioner of Fisheries and Game.

The President then introduced Mr. Smith Riley, the district forester, who spoke on "The Relation of Big Game and Sheep in the National Forests."

Mr. Riley said in part:—

Big game are valuable to pleasure parks. In Estes Park sheep and deer are numerous. These give far greater value to the parks than if used as a sheep pasture. Isolated bunches are now deteriorating by interbreeding. New blood is needed. Small bands on the Elk River are surrounded by the area used as sheep pastures. The number has increased to 160 head on a small area. In the White River Plateau, National Forest, Col., are upwards of 2,000 elk, a good increase. Apprehends little difficulty in maintaining them. The mountain sheep in Estes Park are very numerous.

Mr. Thompson, superintendent of Estes Park, applied for membership in the association, and said "Sheep can be seen almost any day, sometimes coming within 50 feet of the observer."

Meeting adjourned.

Meeting called to order at 2 P.M., President Pearson in the chair. Commissioner Mercer of Georgia moved the following resolutions relative to co-operation between the Canadian and the United States authorities for the protection of game birds, which was referred to the Committee on Resolutions:—

Resolved, That we invite the co-operation of the Provinces of Canada in the adoption of laws for the uniform protection of migratory birds, the common property of the people of the States and of the Provinces, and assure our neighbors of the north of a sincere purpose on our part to conserve the birds that annually make their homes alternately in this country and in that; and further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Dominion and Provincial officials in charge of the preservation of birds and game.

Commissioner Mercer spoke on the importance of co-operation between the two countries.

Upon announcement that Commissioner Garfield had been summoned home by the sudden death of his wife, Colonel Acklen spoke feelingly of our sympathy with Commissioner Gar-