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A BETTER AMERICA

FOR AMERICANS

AND BETTER AMERICANS

FOR AMERICA

PREPARED FOR

PROSPECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE

IZAAK WALTON CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.

BY ITS PRESIDENT, GEORGE E. SCOTT

CHICAGO: MCMXXIX

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RESTORE FOR POSTERITY THE OUTDOOR AMERICA OF OUR ANCESTORS



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service
"The forest is the mother of the rivers"—ANON

FOREWORD

The IZAAK WALTON CONSERVATION FOUNDATION was organized to carry on the work of conservation through the Izaak Walton League of America as long as the League is a national functioning organization devoted to these purposes. The Foundation will insure the continuity and expansion of the work the League is doing, the essential importance of which cannot be overestimated.

Glenn Frank, the President of the University of Wisconsin, said in a recent address:

"Conservation is a challenging movement that sinks its roots into the whole of our social order. Conservation is more than planting a few trees and protecting a few fish. It is something more than luring harassed men out of stuffy offices into the healing atmosphere of lake and woods. These things are important—very important—but I submit that they are after all incidental aspects of conservation. To do no more than stimulate the doing of these things is a very worthy venture. The spiritual by-products of these incidental steps in conservation are too precious to lose.

"The man who builds a machine may know the craftsman's satisfaction with a job well done, but in some mystic way, a man who plants a tree becomes a kind of partner with God, in a creative act, because you cannot build trees, all you can do is to preside at the mystery of their growth; and we know that a people that respects its out-of-doors keeps contact with that eternally young spirit of nature, which helps as nothing else can

help to preserve in us the spirit of youth in that fight against age, that all of us have to make from our birth."

The Izaak Walton League has at present 3000 Chapters in as many communities scattered throughout the United States. Many of the members who first came into the movement were fish ermen and sportsmen, but it has gone far beyond that now. They became conservationists when they realized what devastation had taken place in connection with our out-of-doors. There is probably no country that has so ruthlessly destroyed its forests and polluted its streams as has our own. They became interested immediately in preserving such of our forests as were left and rebuilding those that had been destroyed. They determined to bring back the original purity of our waters and also to restore the flower, animal, bird, and fish life, without which so much pleasure of an esthetic and educational value must be sacrificed. soon they realized that the result of their efforts would benefit them comparatively little during their lifetime but that they were largely working for future generations of Americans, they then became unselfish conservationists and drew others into the movement who were not sportsmen at all but who had the vision to see all of its possibilities.

They are now planting trees, purifying streams, establishing breeding grounds, rest places and refuges for our wild life; helping in local, state and national conservation legislation, and preaching a code of ethics based upon good sportsman



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service

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". . Freedom from her mountain height . ."-DRAKE.

ship which is in reality the good old rule, "Do unto others as you would that others do unto you."

The following slogan of the League was adopted at the first national convention in 1923: "We pledge ourselves to restore for posterity the outdoor America of our Ancestors."

There are now more than 100,000 active members of the Izaak Walton League. These members are carrying on all kinds of conservation work and are exerting a more powerful influence on public opinion in conservation matters than any other force in America today. They are necessarily developing a higher standard of citizenship and deeper and more enduring love of country.

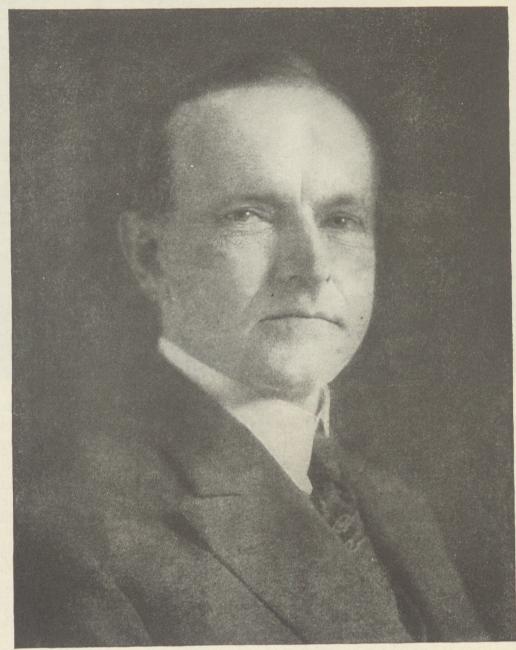
Henri Dunant, who founded the Red Cross and was responsible for the Red Cross Treaty of Geneva, once said: "Any ordinary man or woman, endowed with the love of a neighbor and a little enthusiasm, can accomplish great things for humanity."

The League is finding these people in every community—they have a kindly feeling for their neighbors and they have a great deal of enthusiasm and they are accomplishing wonderful things physically and spiritually for their country. They are trying to make

"A Better America for Americans and Better Americans for America." It is to this purpose that the Izaak Walton Conservation Foundation is devoted.



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service



@ Walinger, Chicago

CALVIN COOLIDGE

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

October 9, 1924

The Chairman of your Executive Committee, Mr. George E. Scott, has informed me of the nationwide effort which your organization proposes to make this Fall to increase its membership. It is my sincere wish that you may meet with a full measure of success.

The Izaak Walton League, appealing to every lover of the out-of-doors, has proved itself an effective educational force for intelligent conservation in this country. It gave me genuine satisfaction to sign the Bill enacted by the last Congress, in which your members were so deeply interested, providing for the Upper Mississippi Wild Life and Fish Refuge. While the establishment of this refuge is of peculiar interest to the contiguous states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, it is a national undertaking of value to the entire country. The estimates of funds which actually may be required to meet the administrative expenses and acquisition of lands incident to the establishment of this refuge will have my consideration in connection with the next Budget.

I take pleasure in endorsing the efforts of your organization to stimulate a wider appreciation of, and participation in, the unexampled opportunities for outdoor recreation afforded by our country.

Very truly yours,

CALVIN COOLIDGE



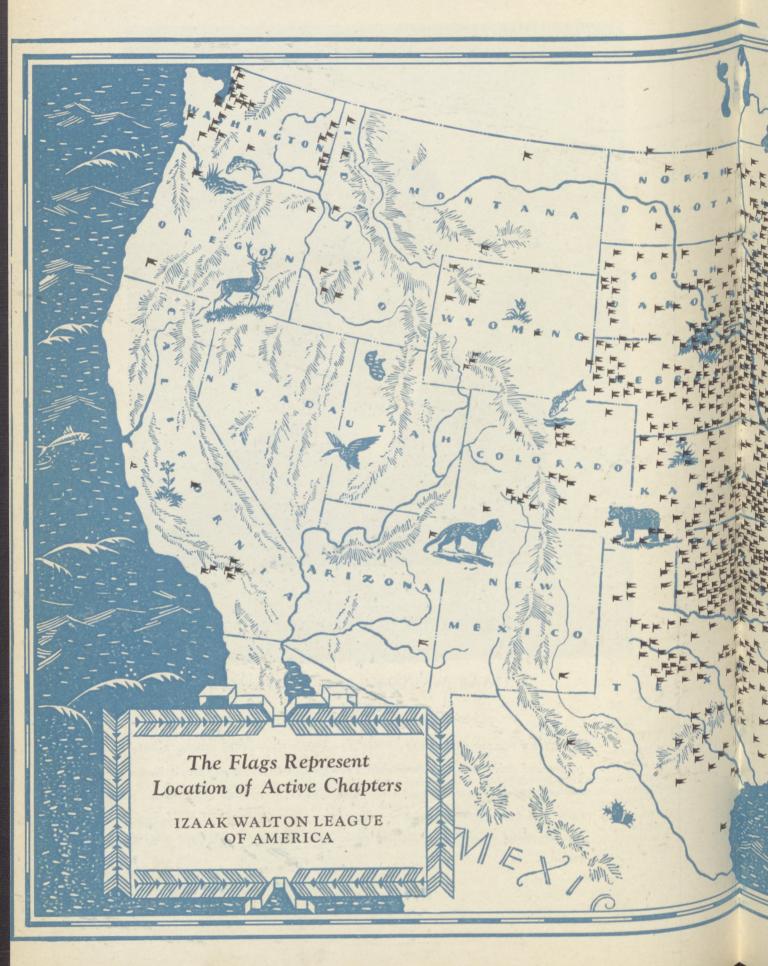
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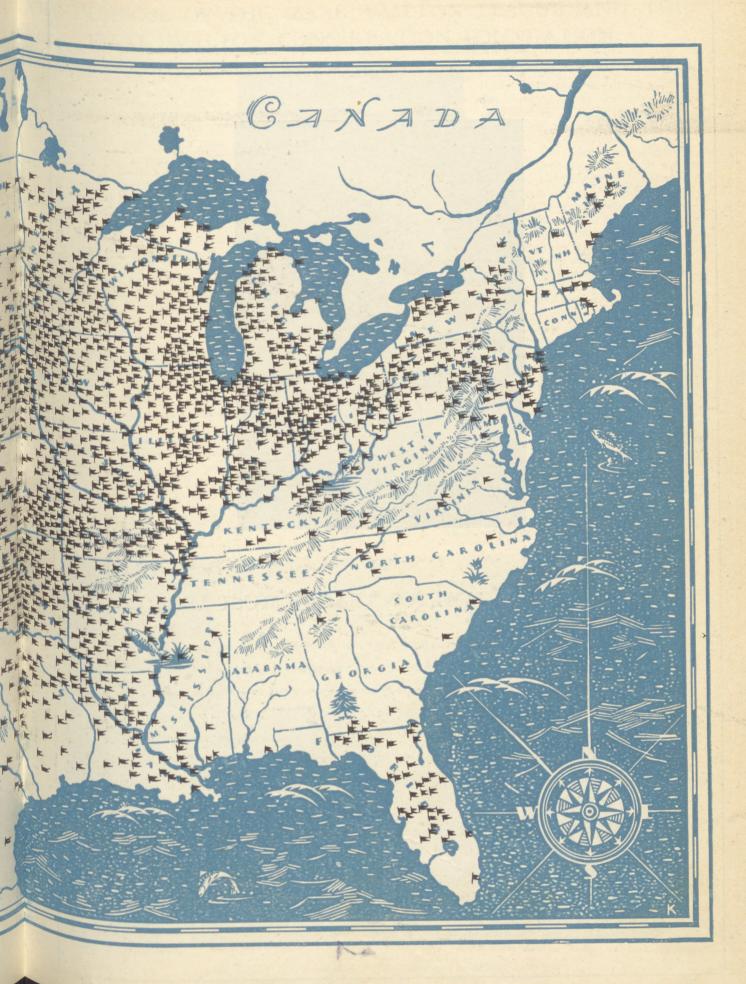
STATEMENT BY HERBERT HOOVER

HONORARY PRESIDENT, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA SINCE 1926

The izaak walton league has become the greatest force in the country for the protection and development of opportunities for outdoor life. As our people increase in numbers and in leisure we must have stimulation to health, and above all the moral value that comes from association with nature. Every member of the League is a further soldier in our ranks fighting an organized battle for this vital thing in the nation.

Washington, December 15, 1926.





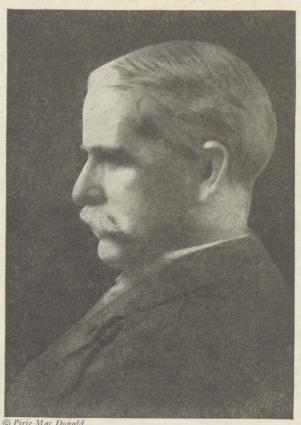
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© Pirie Mac Donald

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE MUST LIVE

It stands for a great idea—something large and fine and generous and strong—the united and unselfish effort of American men and women, lovers of nature and outdoor sport, to conserve our country's heritage of natural beauty and to protect her native birds and beasts and fishes from wanton, wasteful extermination. This is a patriotic, humane, and it seems to me, religious purpose. God gave us this glorious land not to despoil and ruin, but to love and cherish, to keep beautiful and fruitful and full of attraction and opportunity for that open-air life which will help us and our children to ward off the dangers and discases of modern civilization. That is the object of the League, and that is why it must live.

DR. HENRY VAN DYKE

THE PURPOSE OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE AND THE IZAAK WALTON CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

The Izaak Walton League was originally founded by a small group of devoted fishermen and Nature lovers, but the purpose of the organization later expanded to include the whole problem of conservation of the problem o servation of our national woods and waters. Education of Americans to a true appreciation of the consolations and inspirations of nature has become one of its chief

Izaak Walton, the titular godfather of the League, lives in popular fancy because of his love of the outdoors and the moral reflections to which his love of fishing gave an approach. Our 10,000,000 fishermen and sportsmen in this country make powerful supporters of the League, for they know what destruction of forests, pollution of streams and lakes, and shortsighted neglect neglect means. They respond to that appeal of nature which

through the ages has made a deepening force for human

To lose or miss contact with the outdoors is to lose the very vital elements in the finest of our heritage. It is to feel less the promise of "still waters" and "green passure," pastures" and is not to fully respond to the thought of the desert brought to bloom like the rose of Sharon.

In literature it is to be denied more than a formal feeling for poetry and song, while a child so raised can

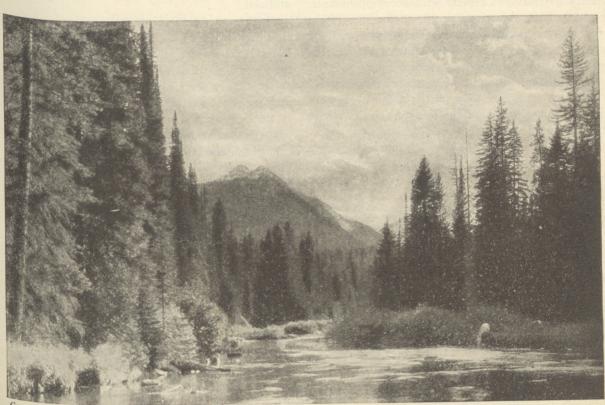


Courtesy American Forestry

never in fancy stand with our own Riley "knee deep in June." Without these contacts our youth can not enter into the great legacies which our thinkers and spiritual leaders have bequeathed.

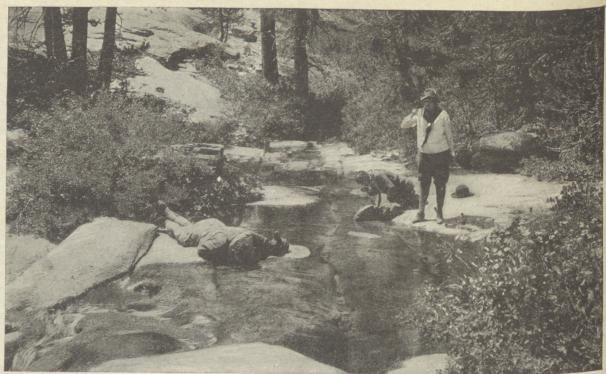
Today the League is operating through 3,000 chapters, each composed of folks living and believing in the outdoors and serving their communities and the future by their devotion. No part of America is without men and women who are moved by the appeal of the outdoors. No section of the country is without possibility of access to the outdoors. One of the immediate problems of the League is further to increase the number of these chapter groups. The League offers its chapters and members an educational and spiritual quickening, for it gives to them the opportunity to have a part in the betterment of their country.

The Izaak Walton Conservation Foundation was founded at the request of the Izaak Walton League in convention at Omaha on April 19, 1928—Lexington Day. The judgment was recorded by the 500 delegates present, representing organized groups in all parts of the United States. The Foundation was brought into being in order to insure the League financial support during expansion, and to give continuity and additional force to its conservation program.



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service

I have found it to be a real truth, that the very sitting by the river's side is . . . the quietest and fittest place for contemplation . . . "-IZAAK WALTON.



Courtesy National Park Service

The Izaak Walton League opposes drainage projects which injure natural resources without equivalent benefit to the public, and wages an aggressive campaign to eradicate pollution from inland and coastal waters.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE

The Izaak Walton League is only a few years old, but already its record is replete with accomplishments. It has aroused the American people to the imperative need for the contructive conservation of our outdoor resources as they have never been aroused before. In a large sense, the outstanding achievements of the League will always be those "community skirmishes" which will not attract wide publicity because of their very number but will reward the local Walton chapters with the unending gratitude of a neighborhood. It is possible to list, however, the following outstanding national projects behind which every man, every chapter, and the executive council of the Izaak Walton League have devoted tireless zeal:

I. Setting aside the upper Mississippi Wild Life Refuge, an area of over 300,000 acres devoted to the preservation of wild life and to recreation.

2. Saved the Jackson Hole elk herd by raising \$40,000, purchasing and maintaining 2,000 acres of haylands, and focusing public attention upon the needs of these animals.

3. Fathered and secured the enactment of federal legislation to stop the marketing of black bass all over the United States.

4. Saved the Superior National Forest as a wilderness area, the only area of its kind in the Middle West.

5. Inaugurated a nationwide anti-pollution campaign of a scope never before attempted and which has already resulted in accomplishments in purifying natural waters in the United States beyond anything heretofore attained.

6. Promoted a "Save the Western Ducks Campaign, resulting in legislation for the reclamation of the Beat River Marshes in Utah thereby saving from destruction the main flight of western ducks. Similar legislation to create a large permanent lake in the Cheyenne Bottoms in Kansas is pending and will undoubtedly be passed by the next session of Congress.

7. Helped materially in obtaining legislation for all extensive national forest purchase program east of the Plains, and to establish a comprehensive nationwide forest and wild life research program.

8. Cooperated in drafting and securing the enactment of flood control legislation to control the devastating floods of the Mississippi and other rivers.

In addition to the foregoing accomplishments, the national organization has under way:

1. Actively promoting a campaign to develop an international recreational area along the international boundary in the Quetico-Superior region.

2. The enactment of a five-year federal fisheries construction and development program benefiting every part of the nation.

3. Vigorously opposing the destruction of such outstanding scenic assets as the Great Falls of the Potomac near our National Capitol; the Cumberland Falls in Kentucky; the Arkansas River flowing through the

Royal Gorge in Colorado in the conviction that such natural wonders are invaluable in their primal state.

4. Continuing the nationwide campaign to clean up all inland and coastal waters.

The twenty-six state divisions and more than three thousand chapters have established hundreds of game refuges, fish hatcheries, rearing ponds, lakes and game farms to produce more game and fish, public parks for recreational use, and have sponsored the enactment of up-to-date conservation legislation. Space does not permit the enumeration of the many accomplishments of all the state divisions.

Below are given twelve widely scattered examples:—FLORIDA: Now endeavoring to stop the forest fire menace to assure future forests, protect wild life and wild flowers; protecting Florida's egret rookeries from the plume hunters; promoting the Hoover nursery pond plan to rear more fish. Established the first game and game fish department in the state and led the fight for better conservation laws.

ILLINOIS: Now has under way a campaign to eliminate pollution from all Illinois streams to protect public health and restore the state's outdoor attractions. Secured the enactment of a modern fish and game code, and legislation to promote forestry in the state.

INDIANA: Fathered and secured the passage of a complete revision of Indiana's conservation laws; now waging a campaign to clean up the streams and to establish a state park in "The Limberlost."

Kansas: Fathered legislation to revamp and improve conservation administration in Kansas; modern laws to remove pollution from Kansas streams; and promoted successful statewide lake-building and tree-planting campaigns. Now promoting a campaign to create a permanent lake and bird refuge of 20,000 acres in the Cheyenne Bottoms.

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mac in MICHIGAN: Secured the enactment of modern forest legislation to regrow Michigan's forests and curb the forest fire menace; inaugurated a statewide program of fish rearing ponds and hatcheries; and pushing an aggressive clean streams program.

MINNESOTA: Sponsored the enactment of improved conservation laws, especially modern legislation to re-

grow northern Minnesota's forests; secured the passage of a real anti-pollution law; waged a fight to save the Superior Forest as a wilderness area; established an angling license for both residents and non-residents to supply more funds for fish work; raised \$25,000 in cooperation with other organizations for a statewide Hungarian partridge stocking campaign; established many Hoover fish rearing ponds; and improved conservation conditions generally.

Nebraska: Improved conservation laws decidedly; promoted statewide tree-planting and clean-streams campaigns; established many fish rearing ponds and inaugurated a statewide game refuge system to save the prairie chickens and other wild life.

NEW YORK: Responsible for a statewide awakening to the need of clean streams to protect public health and conserve aquatic life; promoted extensive forest tree-planting campaigns and a statewide system of wild life, refuges; and prevented the enactment of unwise water impounding legislation.

Oklahoma: Sponsored and obtained the enactment of legislation establishing the first game and fish department; sponsored a statewide program of wild life refuges and fish rearing ponds; and materially improved the outdoor facilities of the state.

PENNSYLVANIA: Promoted an extensive public forest purchase program; now waging an aggressive clean streams campaign which will result in much better antipollution legislation. Obtained increased funds for the purchase of wild life refuges and fish hatcheries.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Sponsored the enactment of an improved system of wild life administration; promoted the fish rearing pond plan; and brought about much improved relations between outdoor enthusiasts and rural residents.

WISCONSIN: A new and thoroughly modern system of conservation administration; modern legislation to regrow Wisconsin's forests and materially improve her outdoor attractions; the restoration of the Horicon Marshes containing 40,000 acres; a statewide system of fish hatcheries and rearing ponds; and an advanced program to eliminate pollution.



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service

Winter feeding of elk on the League's Jackson Hole haylands.



© C. O. Buckingham Co.

AMERICANS BETTER BETTER AMERICA AND

The Izaak Walton League gives its support encouraging legislation to safeguard and restore the outdoor assets of America. Some of the bills now pending at Washington which the Izaak Walton League sponsors or actively supports are these:

SHIPSTEAD-NEWTON SUPERIOR FOREST BILL

(S. 3913—H. R. 12780)

To further safeguard the public interests and inaugurate a broad comprehensive plan which will ultimately result in the joint development of 15,000 square miles of a unique lakeland region as the first international recreational and forest production area on this con-

HOPE-CURTIS CHEYENNE BOTTOMS BILL

(H. R. 7361 - S. 4153)

Appropriating \$350,000 to make a permanent lake and waterfowl refuge of 25,000 acres in the Cheyenne Bottoms in central Kansas.

NORBECK-ANTHONY BIRD REFUGE BILL (S. 1271—H. R. 5467)

Providing for the creation of a nationwide system of migratory bird refuges to comply with the treaty with Canada and to protect and increase the migratory birds of North America.

WHITE FISHERIES PROGRAM (H.R.13383)

A comprehensive five-year program authorizing appropriations for construction and development of federal hatcheries and research laboratories in thirty-three states and Alaska. Passed by both the House and Senate in the closing days of the first session of the Seventieth Congress, but was not signed by the President because the funds needed had not been budgeted and appropriated. Will be introduced early in the next session and its repassage is practically assured.

WINTER JACKSON HOLE ELK HAYLANDS

(H. R. 478)

To appropriate \$275,000 to connect the present refuges and buy more haylands in Jackson Hole for the elk as recommended by the Elk Commission.

CAPPER-ZIHLMAN POTOMAC FALLS BILL

(S. 1280—H. R. 5760)

To preserve the Great Falls of the Potomac and surrounding territory near Washington as part of the National Capital's public park system, and appropriating not to exceed \$4,000,000.

KIESS SUSQUEHANNA RIVER POLLUTION AND FLOOD CONTROL BILL

(H. R. 6919)

Directing the War Department to survey and devise methods to eliminate pollution and control floods in the West Branch of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania.



Courtesy U. S. Forest Service

The wanton destruction of the buffalo was one of the sensational disgraces incident to the development of our western country.



Rare indeed are the instances of individuals who have reached high places in public life, in a profession, or business, without the character foundation that comes from an appreciation of the out-of-doors.

THE CHAPTERS OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE

The local chapter is the real heart and force that makes the national organization effective. The chapters actively carry on local conservation work such as planting trees, protecting wild flowers, creating public Parks, establishing fish hatcheries, and rearing ponds, game farms, etc., clearing up pollution of their local waters, helping to pass state and national conservation legislation. Many chapters already have achieved remarkable results. They are all making sincere efforts and are rapidly increasing in strength and influence.

As an example of the force that an alert chapter can develop in its community, one outstanding case may be

cited. A chapter which is less than three years old-

Has built up a membership of

Has established a trout hatchery in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Fisheries with capacity of 500,000 trout per year.

Has reforested a five-acre plot in the public park in cooperation with the Boy Scouts.

Has encouraged over fifty boys and girls in the county each to plant an acre of trees on their parents' property, giving prizes for the best acreage.

Has had appointed by the State Conservation Commission from its own membership, forty volunteer game protectors.

Has cleaned up many of the polluted streams of the county.

Has distributed many thousands of brook, brown, rainbow and lake trout, bass, white fish and perch, in contiguous streams, and this stocking will be continued yearly.

Has established a permanent exhibit of all the species of pheasants at the local park. Also had an elaborate exhibit of game birds at the last poultry show.

Has liberated pheasants, Hungarian partridges and rabbits for the benefit of the hunters of that locality.

Has established an ideal public auto camping ground for tourists which has been liberally patronized by tourists from all over the United States and Canada.

Has assisted in the organization of some twenty-five chapters in its section of the state, has encouraged these chapters in the more rural sections to establish wild life refuges to be set aside for a term of years against fishing, hunting and trapping.

> Is fostering a more friendly feeling between the sportsman

and the farmer.

Has posted hundreds of signs in conspicuous places in woods and on streams urging outdoor enthusiasts to avoid carelessness with fires in the woods and to refrain from illegal fishing.

Distributed almost 50,000 pieces of valuable conservation educational literature, posters and stickers.

Conducts a regular educational column in the daily papers.

Holds monthly meetings the first Wednesday in each month to which the general public are invited—at which motion pictures of parks, forests, fish and game are shown. Each Monday noon holds a luncheon when the members are privileged to listen to talks on various conservation subjects.

Issued a year book at a profit of \$2,300 to the Chapter which recited briefly what the Chapter has done, is doing and what it hopes to accomplish in the future.



-"lilies and lady-smocks, . . culverkeys and cowslips, . . and many other flowers, so perfumed the air, that I thought that very meadow like that field in Sicily . . , where the perfumes arising from the place make all dogs that hunt in it to fall off, and to lose their hottest scent."—IZAAK WALTON, 1653.



Courtesy Bureau of Biological Survey

THE LEAGUE'S MAGAZINE "OUTDOOR AMERICA"

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA Defender of Woods, Waters and Wild Life

For the purpose of proclaiming the conservation cause of the League and of teaching the highest type of outdoor ethics, the League publishes a monthly magazine, Outdoor America.

From the time of the first issue of the magazine when the rallying call of its first printed word was sounded by Emerson Hough, the outdoor writers and artists of America have contributed their magnificent bit. They have given generously. They have given unselfishly. They have given of their best.

The list of America's most noted and best known writers who have contributed—absolutely without pay—to Outdoor

EMERSON HOUGH DR. HENRY VAN DYKE ZANE GREY GENE STRATTON-PORTER JAMES OLIVER CURWOOD WALTER PRICHARD EATON ELLIS PARKER BUTLER WILLIAM L. FINLEY JOHN HELD, JR. ROBERT W. CHAMBERS IRVIN COBB HAROLD TITUS HAROLD BELL WRIGHT ALBERT BIGELOW PAINE EDWARD BRECK GEORGE ADE BEN AMES WILLIAMS STRUTHERS BURT

THEODORE DREISER AUDUBON TYLER WILLIAM SCHMEDTGEN LEE STURGES REGINALD WRIGHT KAUFF-MAN OZARK RIPLEY O. W. SMITH Percy Couse Dr. James A. Henshall FLORENCE GIBSON McCABE DONALD, HOUGH BEN EAST OLIVER DENNET GROVER JOHN T. McCutcheon Van Campen Heilner ROBERT H. DAVIS PHILIP KINSLEY

AMERICA indicates how deep and wide is this outdoor appeal. This list of names is more than endorsement. This

type of service and sacrifice is the League.

Every single member of the Izaak Walton League, every reader of the League's magazine eager for the power, the progress and the success of the League's great cause, cannot but be deeply grateful to these outdoor-loving writers and artists—these men and women who have given and are giving so much of their talent, so much of their minds and spirits, their sympathy and labor, to help insure for all the future the great gift of America's outdoors.

A list of some of these contributors follows.

ROBERT PAGE LINCOLN NASH BUCKINGHAM Edison Marshall CHARLES LATHROP PACK HORACE LYTLE FORREST CRISSEY HAROLD T. PULSIFER GEORGE PARKER HOLDEN GEORGE HEBDEN CORSAN HALFORD J. MORLAN KENNETH LOCKWOOD GUY VON SCHRILTZ FREDERIC VAN DE WATER HAROLD DE POLO WILLIAM MACLEOD RAINE EVERETT E. LOWRY FRANK STICK

W. H. D. KOERNER CHARLES LIVINGSTON BULL FRANK B. HOFFMAN RICHARD LEGALLIENNE FRANK KING SIDNEY SMITH GROVER PAGE WILLIAM BEEBE REX BEACH HAL G. EVARTS GEORGE M. L. LABRANCHE MARY ROBERTS RINEHART CHARLES NEVILLE BUCK ALICE HEGAN RICE TOM WALLACE GLUYAS WILLIAMS MACKINLAY KANTOR

ENGLISH CONTRIBUTORS

SIR GEORGE ASTON BRIG. GEN. LIONEL BANON Dr. Joseph Adams H. T. Sheringham Viscount Grey of Fallodon R. B. Marston G. E. M. Skues

RESTORE FOR POSTERITY
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