

# ORDER TO KILL OFF OSPREYS PROTESTED

William L. Finley Scores  
Game Commission.

*Oregonian*  
RARE BIRD HELD ASSET

5-15-32

Naturalist Disagrees With Dr. J. C.  
Vandervert That Fowl Real  
Enemy to Trout.

BEND, Or., May 13.—(Special.)—William L. Finley, nationally-known Oregon naturalist, when in Bend yesterday on his way to the lake area in the southeastern part of the state, bitterly criticized Dr. J. C. Vandervert, member of the state game commission, for his action ordering ospreys on Bend's mirror pond killed.

"If Dr. Vandervert has had the birds killed, he should be discharged from the game commission by the governor," Mr. Finley said.

In response to a direct question as to whether the ospreys had been killed, Dr. Vandervert declared "he was not saying anything about that." The birds have not been seen around the mirror pond for several days.

"The killing of these birds would be in direct violation of the law," Mr. Finley said, "for they are protected and certainly should be protected by every member of the state board which is supposed to guard and build up our wild life."

### Dr. Vandervert Held in Error.

"Dr. Vandervert is entirely wrong about ospreys. They feed almost entirely on 'trash' fish, taking few trout. I would not say that ospreys never take trout, but it may be that they do. I have never examined the stomach of an osprey in which trout were found, however, and from observation of the birds I do not believe they kill many trout.

"To condemn all ospreys on the ground that they destroy game fish, as Dr. Vandervert has done, is to show ignorance of the real purpose of the state's wild life program.

"Suppose the ospreys did kill a few trout. What are a few fish in comparison with the value of those fine birds to Oregon? Other states have proved time and time again that wild life is one of the greatest assets a county can have. California is an example, New York is another.

"Take Gardiner island. There's an example. The island is owned by Clarence Mackey and the ospreys on that island are its chief attraction. I know one English naturalist who made the trip all the way from England just to photograph those ospreys and to get a pair to take back to England.

### Wild Life Big Asset.

"I have spent a good part of my life attempting to build up Oregon's reputation as a wild life center. Thousands of people are doing the same thing in other parts of the country. But there is a type of 'sportsman' who thinks of nothing but kill—to kill birds that compete with him for fish, to kill fish that he thinks interfere with game fish, to kill anything and everything that is wild.

"Oregon's wild life program sponsored by the game commission should be a broader program than one of killing. It must be a program that is based, first of all, on true scientific knowledge. To condemn a species of fish or bird to death is a grave thing—a thing that should never be done until positive proof that the fish or bird is harmful to man has been produced.

"No such proof exists against the

osprey. There are relatively few of them left and they are entitled to protection. There are few places left in Oregon where one may be sure of seeing ospreys now. Bend was unique in that attraction for a time, but now yours seem to be gone, too."

Dr. Vandervert announced last week that he was going to have the Bend ospreys killed because they were destroying game fish in the mirror pond.

Mr. Finley was one of Oregon's first game commissioners. He is with the American Nature association in Washington, D. C., at present.

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*Oregonian* # 6-1-32.  
Mr. and Mrs. William Lovell Finley Jr. are receiving congratulations upon the arrival of a daughter, Anne Irene, at Emanuel hospital May 26.

*Oregonian* 6-8-32  
Naturalist to Be Heard.—Wild Life movies and a lecture on experiences among wild animals will be presented by William L. Finley, famed naturalist and lecturer, at the meeting of the Multnomah Anglers and Hunters' club tonight at 8 o'clock at the Pythian temple, West Park and Yamhill streets, it was announced yesterday by Edward E. Brockman, secretary. A short business meeting will follow the entertainment program. All sportsmen and their friends, whether members of the club or not, have been invited to this free lecture. Wives of sportsmen have also been invited. Fred Wegner, president of the club, will act as master of ceremonies.

## FINLEY TO SHOW FILMS

Ad Club Will See Pictures of  
*Oregonian*  
Northwest Wild Life. 6-8-32

William L. Finley, Oregon's noted naturalist, lecturer and author, will show two reels of pictures of wild life in the northwest at the regular luncheon meeting of the Advertising club at the Benson hotel at 12:15 P. M., today.

The films are part of Mr. Finley's large collection of photographic studies of wild life and have been shown on his annual lecture tours of the country. Mr. Finley, who recently returned from a picture-making expedition in southeastern Oregon, has given Oregon and other northwestern states much favorable publicity in other cities, presenting his illustrations and lecturing on the game and wild life of this region.

*Oregonian*  
LAKE FLOODING BACKED  
6-9-32  
Klamath Never Should Have Been  
Drained, Naturalist Declares.

The hope that the Lower Klamath lake might again be flooded and become the refuge of thousands of wild water fowl was voiced by W. L. Finley, Oregon naturalist, author and lecturer, in a talk before the Portland Advertising club yesterday. He declared that it was a great mistake that the area was drained in an effort to reclaim it.

"Anyone who had lived in that country knew that the lake was a settling basin and was filled with alkali which would make farming impossible," he said. "That is exactly what experience proved. Now there are 85,000 acres of alkali desert where once there was water with places for wild fowl to live. We have destroyed one of the greatest wild-fowl refuges in the west and gained nothing by it."

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