

ROOSEVELT SEES FINLEY PICTURES



WILLIAM L. FINLEY, SC.D.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT heard about the unusual motion pictures which William L. Finley of Oregon presented to the 21st American Game Conference, and the contrasting wildlife conditions they illustrate so graphically in the West today as against twenty years ago.

Mr. Finley was invited to the White House to give the President and his guests a private showing on February 4.

The changes, which have weighed so heavily against our wildlife resources in the West, due in large measure to lack of federal planning and coordination, as portrayed by these pictures are most impressive.

—*American Game Bulletin.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 27, 1935.

Mr. William L. Finley,
R.F.D. 10, Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Finley:

I want to thank you for the tremendous stimulus you are giving to wildlife conservation through the agency of your moving pictures and lectures.

You, more than anyone else I know, have succeeded in dramatizing one of the most interesting and valuable elements of our North American continent, namely wildlife, its needs and the threat to its existence.

Your recent voluntary contribution of an evening out of your busy schedule to show the pictures and give your talk on them at the White House I believe was one of the most practical steps toward the promotion of a national wildlife program we could have possibly had.

Yours very truly,

J. N. DARLING,
Chief.

THE FINLEY MOVIES

One recent evening after dinner at the White House, President Roosevelt sat for an hour looking at moving pictures of the scenic magnificence of the West. Explaining the pictures, as they unfolded a thrilling review, was William L. Finley, Oregon's noted naturalist. Appreciatively looking on was J. N. ("Ding") Darling, once a cartoonist, now head of the United States biological survey.

Question followed question on the President's part as the Finley films disclosed the Malheur migratory waterfowl reserve in Oregon. When the naturalist commented that bird reservations should be created in connection with the storage reservoirs of federal reclamation projects, the President suggested that Secretary Ickes of the interior department and representatives of the reclamation bureau ought to see the picture.

Brought to him visually by aid of the movies was the problem of helping salmon to pass Bonneville dam.

Not by his pictures alone, but by his intimate scientific knowledge, William L. Finley is performing a service of full national proportions to the region "Where rolls the Oregon."

In entire agreement is President Roosevelt in Naturalist Finley's valuation of wild life and the great outdoors that should as much be placed upon a basis of sustained yield as the forests and the fields.

—Editorial, The Journal, Feb. 24, 1935.

CONSERVING OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES

Necessity of adequate fishways at Bonneville dam to protect the salmon industry of the Columbia river was urged by William L. Finley, Oregon naturalist and lecturer, in an address given at the luncheon meeting of the Portland Chamber of Commerce members' forum at the Portland hotel.

"The building of dams on the Columbia river is the greatest menace to the salmon industry. They will kill the little fish coming down and prevent fish getting up. The dams will make a series of ponds, suitable for such fish as bass, and probably will exterminate the salmon," Mr. Finley said. "We are spending \$30,000,000 to produce power and to destroy a \$200,000,000 industry."

The Columbia river is the most important salmon stream in the world, he commented.

Beaver Protection Urged

Mr. Finley spoke of lack of coordination between government bureaus and activities. The reclamation service, he said, interferes with protection of wild bird and animal life. When the state legislature passes a law removing protection on beaver, the state is seriously damaged.

"The beaver dead is worth \$10, while the beaver alive is worth \$300 in value to the state," Mr. Finley said. He related the habits of beaver in making dams which store up the water and aid in irrigating the land. "It appeals more to spend \$20,000,000 on an irrigation project than to conserve the water resources that we have," he stated.

—Oregonian, March 12, 1935.