

IZAACK WALTONS HEAR PLAN TO SHARE NATURE

Chicago Daily News
APR. 16 1936

Commerce and Recreation
Could Use Same Re-
sources, Says Leader.

There is no reason why commercial development should ruin our natural resources and wild life, in the opinion of W. L. Finley of Portland, Ore., who was in Chicago today to attend the annual convention of the Izaak Walton League of America.

Ruthless exploitation of natural resources is not only dangerous but expensive, said Mr. Finley, vice-president of the league, in a talk before members in the Sherman hotel.

"Why," said Mr. Finley, "isn't it possible to balance the usage of our woods and waters so that one use doesn't destroy other uses? The forests are mother of our water supply, and the rivers are used for fishing, boating and swimming."

Lesson in California.

Mr. Finley pointed out that fishing, boating and swimming brought the state of California \$192,000,000 a year. If the streams were polluted tourists couldn't use them for recreation, and California would lose her largest industry, he added.

"We are not interested in stopping development," said Mr. Finley. "That would be ridiculous. There are fanatics on both sides. All we want is a balance, and I think that is possible."

Urges Federal Action.

The government, said Mr. Finley, would be better to clean up streams and protect the lives of its citizens than to enter fields of private enterprise.

Dr. Finley, Preston Bradley, Judge George Wood, president of the organization, and members took part later in the day in the dedication of the Jackson park waterfowl sanctuary in the south lagoon.

COLUMBIA DAM DOOMS SALMON, WALTONS TOLD

Chicago Herald-Tribune
U. S. Millions Spent to Ruin
Business Supporting 12,000;
Vast Power Not Needed Now
APR. 17 1936

The Columbia River reclamation and power program, which is costing the taxpayers millions of dollars, is destroying the salmon industry, which supports 12,000 people, the Izaak Walton League of America was told at its annual convention at Hotel Sherman yesterday.

The statement came from W. L. Finley of Portland, Ore., vice president of the league, who said:

"The salmon industry is worth ten to twelve million dollars annually, which equals a reasonable earning on an investment of 200 million dollars.

"It is a gift of nature, which the river development will eliminate at a cost of 200 to 300 millions.

"Repayment of this investment will require fifty years, and the gift of nature, which is destroyed, will still not be paid for."

DAMMED INTO LAKES.

The Grand Coulee Dam, part of the project, will change the river into a series of inland lakes, making it entirely unfit for the life cycle of the salmon, which will not be able to climb the 300-foot dam to spawn in the quiet headwaters, he pointed out.

Suggestions to save the fishing industry by hatcheries are not sound, he said, as salmon cannot be so propagated entirely.

The government, he charged, realizes there is no real need for the tremendous power to be developed, so it has emphasized the irrigation angle, but the land reclamation will cost \$90 to \$150 an acre, making it cost the farmer \$200 to \$360 an acre.

PROMOTERS PROFIT.

"Who profits?" he asked. "The land promoter who gets these projects carried out by the government. The farmer can't make a living and pay off his debts at that price."

In connection with the Walton League convention, the Jackson Park waterfowl sanctuary, which won third place in a national bird refuge contest, was formally presented to the public by George T. Donoghue, superintendent of the Chicago Park District. It was accepted on behalf of Chicago school children by Dr. V. O. Graham, chairman of the Illinois Conservation Council.

WALTON LEAGUE DEDICATES NEW BIRD SANCTUARY

Chicago Herald-Trib.

April 17 - 1936

Attack U. S. Power Proj-
ects at National Meet.

The Jackson park bird sanctuary was formally dedicated yesterday noon as the fourteenth national convention of the Izaak Walton league opened in Chicago. Regular meetings of the convention are being held in the Hotel Sherman today and tomorrow.

The sanctuary, which won third place in a national contest, was presented to the city of Chicago by George T. Donoghue, representing the Chicago park district. Following the dedication a number of wild ducks and geese, which will act as a breeding stock and as decoys to attract wild birds, were released.

W. L. Finley of Portland, Ore., addressing the opening session of the convention, called attention to the damage being done to the salmon industry in the Columbia river by the government power and reclamation projects. Finley is a vice president of the Izaak Walton league and regional vice president of the newly formed Wildlife federation.

Blow to Salmon Industry.

"We are not opposed to the government spending millions of dollars on reclamation and power projects," he said, "providing the government can prove that industry and individuals will profit as much from these projects as they will from the fishing industry, which is being ruined by the dams which are being built. Many people forget that Washington and Oregon are profiting greatly from the salmon industry and from the annual flow of tourists to these states."

Finley pointed out that private power plants already are providing sufficient power for the Columbia river basin, without the government projects. The cost of the river developments will total approximately \$300,000,000 when completed, according to present plans, and, Finley said, the salmon industry which is being destroyed is worth from \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 annually—a reasonable return on an investment equal to the power and reclamation projects.

Discuss Water Pollution.

Yesterday afternoon's session was concerned with water pollution, with five speakers dealing with various aspects of the problem in its relationship to fish and game conservation.

Later in the day there was a discussion of the new wild life federation, led by Mr. Finley and Lester A. Colby, president of the Chicago chapter of the Izaak Walton league and assistant to J. N. Darling, head of the federation.

Today's program includes speeches by Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the U. S. biological survey; Hoyes Lloyd, supervisor of wild life protection in Canada, and S. Barry Locke, conservation director of the Izaak Walton league.