

## MORE LEADERS OBJECT---

To the Reorganization Plan to Group Conservation Activities of Federal Government  
in Old Interior Department Under New Name, as Provided in Senate Bill 2970

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MRS. KEMBLE WHITE

This is the third panel of comment on the Reorganization Bill now pending in Congress. For leaders of conservation who have previously expressed vigorous opposition to the bill in these columns, see page 5.

"No one familiar with the existing Federal Government will question the need for reorganization. Probably everyone will accept the thesis that the grouping of activities by Departments should be in accordance with major purposes or functions, and that the end result should be the grouping of related activities by Departments.

"I hold that agriculture is such a major purpose and function. And I place in agriculture all those activities which relate to the use of land and water for producing crops and growing things; those which deal with the use of the crops themselves; those which insure the maintenance for all time to come of the productivity of the land and water; those which insure management of the land for watershed benefits, and finally those which deal with the welfare of people on the land.

"This group of activities is second to none in natural resource conservation. On them we must rely for all our food and clothing and for substantial parts of the materials for shelter and fuel. For the greatest contributions to human life and civilization now and for all time to come we must for this group of activities have correlation and integration in research and planning and in a wide scope of governmental action. This group of activities calls for a unified national program in the most comprehensive sense of the word.

"I sincerely hope that we may have a reorganization of the Federal Government, and that one essential part of it will consist of such a grouping of agricultural activities as that indicated. I shall exert all of my influence to this end."  
—HENRY A. WALLACE, Secretary of Agriculture.

"Senate Bill 2970 is not a logical plan to save our wildlife resources because it designates the Department of Interior as the future conservation agency of the United States. This Department has followed a policy of using our natural resources for the benefit of individual citizens, and of destroying one resource in harvesting another.

"Some of our greatest federal waterfowl refuges controlled by the Interior Department have been needlessly dried up. Others have been leased to the stockmen. Untold millions of fingerling trout and salmon have died in the fields because of unscreened irrigation ditches.

"In the western states, the Interior Department administers the Public Domain of 143,000,000 acres. Mr. Ickes says the use of the Public Domain will be for the stabilization of the livestock industry. Why not stabilize our wildlife resources?

"Mr. Ickes speaks of the Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams on the Columbia River as conservation measures. These and other proposed dams for irrigation and power may benefit a certain class of people and some industries, but they also barricade the greatest salmon stream in the world.

"The Department of Interior has not conserved, but has destroyed some of our important wildlife resources in the West. Why should it be made the Department of Conservation?" — WILLIAM L. FINLEY, National Leader and Lecturer, Wildlife Conservation.

"The National Council of State Garden Clubs is absolutely opposed to the transfer of the Forest Service, Biological Survey, and Soil Conservation Service to the Department of the Interior and therefor opposed to the reorganization bill as it relates to conservation. The Department of Agriculture functions as the governmental agency to further the reproductive resources of our country. In this department the Forest Service, the Biological Survey, the Soil Conservation Service, have assumed a logical position and we are opposed to any transfer that would endanger the principles of coordinated conservation." — MRS. KEMBLE WHITE, Conservation Chairman, National Council of State Garden Clubs.