

Waltons Enjoy *Coos Bay Times* Films, Talks In *Aug. 26, 1939* Friday Banquet

Mixing fun-making with discussions of their tasks as "defenders of the woods, waters and wild life," delegates to the annual state Izaak Walton league convention gathered nearly 100 strong at Bush's Friday night for the official banquet of the convention.

Feature of the event was presentation to Mayor J. Stanley Emery, state Walton president, of a jeweled Walton pin in recognition of the growth made by the state organization during his term in office. "Organizer of chapters" was the title bestowed upon Emery by William L. Finley of Portland, vice president of the national Walton league.

Many of the 30,000 sportsmen's organizations throughout the nation work only for present improvement of their own local hunting and fishing conditions, not getting down to basic principles of conserving wildlife for future generations, Finley said. The Walton league, he said, aims at preservation of wildlife for the future, along with its work for the present. He condemned the many people in Oregon and throughout the nation whom he accused of keeping their eyes "solely upon the dollar thinking that the greatest thing in life, not knowing that the search out-of-doors for health and happiness is more important."

EXPLAINS PLAN

Charles Fox, Coos county chapter president, proposed a state-wide drive to arouse public sentiment against violators of game laws. Aid of newspapers should be asked in every city, he said, to back up Waltonians. In the Evans Products plant in Marshfield, Fox reported, he and other executives have frowned upon employes violating game laws, and results have been excellent.

Glenn Mitchell of Portland, representing the U.S. forest service, said his office makes recommendations to the state game commission always with the thought of the sportsman in mind.

Chester McCarty, Portland attorney, told the Waltonians "we are testators of a great estate. It is our duty to pass on to succeeding generations the great recreational resources of Oregon."

Willfred Allen of Portland, member of the 1930 state game commission, first president of the Oregon Walton council and charter member of the Portland Walton league, spoke briefly on conservation movements.

Toastmaster was Marshfield's member of the game commission, Dr. A. B. Peacock, who recalled many interesting (and somewhat embarrassing) sports experiences of the speaker and others whom he introduced. Called upon for comments were: Frank Youngquist, Frank Smith, Charles Page, L. D. Felsheim, M. F. Pettit, J. Albert Matson and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bush, all of Coos county.

Frank B. Wire, state game supervisor, and Finley showed moving pictures, Finley's dealing with his studies of wild life and Wire's showing Oregon scenes, including fishing trips on the Deschutes river and Indians taking salmon at Celilo falls.

Save the Fish!

Portland, Aug. 23.—To the Editor of The Journal—The records of the state highway commission show that a large number of tourists come to Oregon for fishing. The tourist business brings lots of money to our residents. The facts that you have brought out in your editorials show that more study is needed to conserve our fish resources in Oregon. I think publicity is the only way this can be brought about.

Oregon is one of the best states in the union as the natural home for the best known trout species in the country, like cutthroats, rainbows, and steelheads. It took Mother Nature a million years, more or less, to produce these remarkable varieties of fish, yet it is taking man but a few years to upset some of the fundamental factors in fish life and overturn the important laws of nature in perpetuating her species. Instead of turning more attention to this subject and having scientists solve the problem, what has been done? Cannibalistic fish have been imported and planted in the waters occupied by our valuable food and game fish. Breeds have been mixed. Haphazard experiments have been tried until our streams are a conglomerate mass of species that only experts can unravel.

The public has been led to believe that the establishment of hatcheries and artificial propagation of fish will solve our problem. Some wild birds and mammals can be artificially raised, others cannot. It is somewhat the same with fish. More care and attention should be paid to the natural spawning beds. Late investigation has shown that natural spawning has produced better results than artificial.

With a vast amount of money spent by our game commission to keep up the fish supply in our waters, the game commission should have spent more effort to prevent stream pollution, because fish cannot live in poisoned waters.

William F. Finley,
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