

Mar. 18, 1940
Finley to Picture

Wildlife Work

Oregonian

Progress of wildlife protection in southwestern states will be described for the Oregon Audubon society by William L. and Irene Finley at the society's annual banquet here April 25.

Thirty years ago the two naturalists made their first natural history studies in Arizona and New Mexico. Their findings then will be contrasted with recent studies when they lecture before the state society on birds that winter in the south.

Finley, now in Washington, D. C., for the fifth North American Wildlife convention, is vice-president of the National Wildlife federation. He is also vice-president of the Izaak Walton League of America and will attend the annual board meeting of that group in Chicago March 27.

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Finley's Talk
Against Valley
Project Lashed

Eugene, Ore. News

Mar. 19, 1940

**Elmo Chase Points
To Fallacies in
Arguments**

When William L. Finley, Oregon naturalist, used a Chicago "sounding board" to express his resentment against the Willamette Valley Basin project, he drew some repercussions in Eugene.

Finley declared that the big flood control basin project will virtually wipe out the great salmon industry of the Columbia.

Elmo B. Chase of Eugene, a member of the board of three that operate the valley basin project, yesterday replied:

"We are not greatly interested in the Columbia river fisheries. We are, of course, interested. We wish them well, but up here in the valley, agriculture comes first. That's why the basin flood control project has been organized," said Chase.

Flood Value Denied

The Finley argument that the "flood" and "overflow" of the Willamette was an advantage to the Willamette basin farmers because it settled a lot of rich sediment on the shores of the river-bottom land was denied.

Chase, who has been in this valley and with the Chase pioneers has seen the river for many years, said the argument that the so-called sediment and richness is added to the soil by the floods on the lower levels is a fallacy.

This "ground" is torn away from many other farms and very little of it is added to other farm land. Most of the sediment is spread over gravel bars and other impediments in the river and is of no use to anyone, he said.

Unfair, Is Said

Chase, while declaring he was not speaking officially for the basin project commission, said that the Finley attack, coming as it did from Chicago instead of Oregon where it could be readily answered, was an unfair and uncalled-for drive against this long-time studied project.

Finley declared in his publicized speech at Chicago that the Willamette Valley Basin project would mean the virtual extinction of the vast Columbia river salmon industry and added—unfortunately for his argument—that the big federal projects on the upper Columbia were a menace to the salmon and now it was hoped that the Willamette would provide the tributary source of keeping this vast industry in operation.

Chase still maintains: "We are interested in agriculture in the Willamette valley, control of floods and the general betterment. The fish will be well protected at all times although that is not our essential interest," Chase said.

As far as could be determined in the Chicago speech, Finley said nothing about any attempt to stop the upper Columbia so-called menace to the salmon.

FINLEY'S TALK AGAINST
Swack House
VALLEY PROJECT LASHED

March 21, 1940
Under the above heading the Eugene Daily News has this to say about William L. Finley's "anti-dam" arguments:

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