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## The pine cone : December, 1920. 1920

[s.l.]: New Mexico Game Protective Association, 1920

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MAKE YOUR CRITICISMS OF THE GAME COMMISSION BILL NOW, OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE.--SEE COMPLETED BILL ON PAGE 3

DECEMBER, 1920 (17th ISSUE)

# THE PINE CONE

ISSUED QUARTERLY

1500 MEMBERS

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE NEW MEXICO GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

CIRCULATION, 3000

## OUR PLATFORM:

1. We stand for vigorous and impartial enforcement of the game and fish laws.
2. We stand for federal control of migratory birds and prohibition of spring shooting.
3. We stand for co-operation with stockmen in a vigorous campaign against predatory animals.
4. We stand for an adequate system of Game Refuges.
5. We stand for such an increase in game and fish as will furnish legitimate sport for every citizen.
6. We believe in public ownership and development of important wildfowl breeding and shooting grounds.
7. We stand for a non-partisan State Game Commission with broad regulatory powers and authorized to employ an expert State Game Warden at an adequate salary.

"Regarded from without, nature appears an immense inflorescence of unforeseeable novelty. The force which animates it seems to create lovingly, for nothing, for the mere pleasure of it, the endless variety of vegetable and animal species. On each it confers the absolute value of a great work of art. It seems as much attached to the first comer as to man himself."—Bergson.



As the cone scatters the seeds of the pine and the fir tree, so may this little paper scatter the seeds of wisdom and understanding among sportsmen.

## Six Rules For Sportsmen:

1. *Be a Real Sportsman.* There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit.
2. *Make Sure It's a Buck.* If you can't see his horns—she hasn't got any.
3. *Help Enforce the Game Law.* Game and fish are public property and only a game-hog will take more than his fair and legal share. Violations should be reported to the nearest Deputy Warden, Forest Ranger, or Game Protective Association.
4. *Respect the Ranchman's Property.* He regards the man who leaves his gates open, cuts his fences, chases his livestock, or shoots near dwellings, as an outlaw. Put yourself in his place.
5. *Be careful With Your Campfire and Matches.* One tree will make a million matches; one match can burn a million trees.
6. *Leave a Clean Camp and a Clean Record.* Unburied garbage, crippled game, and broken laws, are poor monuments for a sportsman to leave behind him.

## MORE GAME FOR NEW MEXICO

*Organized Sportsmen Offer Plan for Business-like Game Production. Plan Backed by New Administration and Ready for Legislature.*

### THE PRESENT PLAN

#### WHY IT WILL NOT WORK

First, because the entire personnel of the game department is subject to a complete change every two years, which is just about long enough for the tremendous task of rebuilding our game and fish supply to commence to begin to get started.

Second, because rebuilding our game and fish resources is a job for experts, and it is only by chance that a man appointed as a reward for political services is a skilled administrator and an expert on fish and game.

Third, because of the building of game and fish resources is a job so big and slow and difficult that no man can even hope to succeed at it without the driving power of an intense personal enthusiasm, and the incentive of a direct responsibility to the sportsmen of the state. It is unreasonable to expect purely political appointees to have this particular enthusiasm or this particular incentive.

Fourth, because the present salary of \$2,400 is not sufficient to command the services of a competent executive, and it would be unsafe to increase that salary until the present system is changed. A big plum is just naturally harder to restore to its owner than a little one. Of course, it occasionally happens that a man has an independent income and does not need the salary, but this is an accident and can not be relied upon in framing the organization of the department.

Fifth, because the present system limits the authority and responsibility of the game department mostly to police duties. Enforcing the law is an absolutely essential basis for the work of rebuilding our game supply, but it is only the beginning, not the end, of the real constructive work of game production. It takes something more than a watchdog in the orchard to raise apples, and big men are not attracted to a job that does not give them a reasonably free hand, and lasts only two years at that.

Sixth and last, the present form of state game department won't work in the future because years of experience have shown that it has not worked in the past. This is not said in a spirit of carping criticism, nor as a reflection upon any individual—it is simply a bald fact known to all thinking sportsmen of this state. The sportsmen are paying in their money, but the money is not bringing results. The sportsmen believe that the proposed Commission can deliver results. The party in power is pledged to the new plan. For what good reason, therefore, should the Legislature decline to put the new plan into effect?

### THE PROPOSED COMMISSION PLAN

#### WHO IS BEHIND IT AND WHAT IT WILL DO

The plan for a New Mexico State Game Commission was drawn up by the Fourth Annual Sportsmen's Convention held at Santa Fe, April 23 and 24, 1920.

It has the backing, which as far as we know is unanimous, of all the local Game Protective Associations affiliated with the New Mexico G. P. A. It is endorsed in the platforms of both political parties. It is recommended by the New Mexico Revenue Commission. It has been reviewed, criticized, and endorsed by a special advisory committee consisting of fifteen

useful job of rebuilding a game supply has far performed in any state, and is doing it by the use of the same principle of special protection for game where special protection is needed—the principle which is the heart of the New Mexico bill. The drift of progressive thought on game conservation is everywhere the same: Fewer laws and more expert managers charged with a definite responsibility and clothed with sufficient authority to redeem that responsibility.

The complete text of the bill is given

## THE PLEDGE

*We favor an adequate system for the protection and increase of our game supply as a great economic and social resource of New Mexico, and we pledge ourselves to enact legislation that will create a competent game commission endowed with full regulatory power to the end that game protection and propagation may be based on sound, scientific and flexible principles.*

—From The Republican State Platform, 1920

### THE ADMINISTRATION

#### AND ITS PLEDGE

The sportsmen of New Mexico are fortunate in having a governor-elect who is himself a sportsman. It will certainly require no lengthy argument to convince Judge Mechem that it is results that the sportsmen want, and that to get results will require not only the faithful but also the intelligent carrying out of the plan to which his administration is pledged.

First of all, the Commission bill must be passed. The passage of the bill would be seriously jeopardized should the governor appoint a Game Warden under the old law. The G. P. A. hopes, therefore, that the Governor will withhold making any appointment until the Legislature has acted on the bill. Such action would be hastened, should the governor see fit to put the influence of the administration behind the bill, to the passage of which the Republican party is already strongly pledged in its platform.

Second, the success of the whole plan depends on the calibre of the men selected for the Commission. The G. P. A. has eliminated the restrictions previously contained in the bill as to the selection of Commissioners, so as to give the governor an absolutely free hand. In doing so we have entrusted to him the success or failure of the whole enterprise. We know that Judge Mechem knows the kind of men we need, and we are confident that he will act accordingly.

Third, it is highly important that no political pressure be brought to bear on the Commissioners as to the selection of a State Game Warden. They can not be held responsible for results without a free hand to select the man who must deliver those results, and no real sportsman or game conservationist would accept an appointment as Commissioner under any other conditions.

It seems hardly necessary to state that the G. P. A. has no candidate for either Commissioner or Warden. But we do have some pretty high standards that we confidently expect the new personnel of the Game Department to measure up to.

Every sign thus far indicates that Governor Mechem and his advisers are going to meet the sportsmen half way in an attempt to get some real action and real results. New Mexico will be eternally indebted to any administration that really puts the Game Department on a modern working basis.

leading American authorities on game conservation. It has been gone over by several competent attorneys. It has received highly favorable comment from game officers of several states where the Commission plan is in successful operation.

There is nothing radical or unprecedented about the Commission plan. The newly created New Mexico Board of Health is built on exactly the same principle, and has already proved its efficiency. The Pennsylvania Game Commission is putting through the most suc-

cessful job of rebuilding a game supply has far performed in any state, and is doing it by the use of the same principle of special protection for game where special protection is needed—the principle which is the heart of the New Mexico bill. The drift of progressive thought on game conservation is everywhere the same: Fewer laws and more expert managers charged with a definite responsibility and clothed with sufficient authority to redeem that responsibility.



# The Pine Cone

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Wild Life Conservation.

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GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

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Counsel:  
E. R. Wright ..... Santa Fe  
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## Local Associations

Sportsmen's Association of Southwestern New  
Mexico, Silver City, N. M.

Wm. Harris, President.  
F. N. Carrier, Vice-Pres.  
R. T. Kellogg, Secretary.  
T. H. Wiggins, Vice-Pres.

Santa Fe Game Protective Association.  
F. R. Stevenson, President.  
Frank Owen, Vice-Pres.  
C. G. Mardorf, Treasurer.  
A. J. Fisher, Secretary.

Albuquerque Game Protective Association.  
M. Nash, President.  
Kenneth Baldrige, Vice-Pres.  
Hugh Cassidy, Secretary.  
Ross Merritt, Treasurer.

Carlsbad Game Protective Association.  
Delbert Jackson, President.  
John W. Armstrong, Sec'y and Treas.

Colfax Co. Game Protective Association.  
C. A. Whited, President.  
John Murphey, Secretary.

Magdalena Game Protective and Sportsmen's  
Association.  
Dr. M. McCreary, President.  
Oscar Redemann, Vice-Pres.  
Fred E. Butler, Counsellor.  
T. C. Turk, Secretary.  
Allen Falconer, Treasurer.

Roswell Game Protective Association.  
H. P. Saunders, President.

Taos Game and Fish Protective Association.  
H. R. Leatherman, President.  
C. R. Dwire, Vice-Pres.  
Dr. Fred Muller, Secretary.  
Ralph Myers, Treasurer.

Las Cruces Game Protective Association.  
W. H. Sutherland, President.

McKinley Co. Game Protective Association.  
T. F. Smalling, President.

Carrizozo Game Protective Association.  
E. L. Medler, President.  
H. S. Campbell, Treasurer.  
S. L. Squires, Secretary.  
T. E. Kelley, Director.

Chama Rod and Gun Club.  
Roy Hall, President.  
A. E. Carr, Secretary.

El Paso Game Protective Association.  
(Affiliated.)  
Dr. T. J. McCamant, President.  
Horace B. Stevens, Vice-Pres.  
P. C. Thede, Secretary.  
W. C. Gibson, Treasurer.

## NEW MEXICO COMES ALIVE.

It is beyond question that there has been a landslide of public sentiment toward game conservation during the past two years. This change has naturally been immediately reflected in the attitude of the political parties toward game legislation. This is as it should be. Politicians can not lead where the people are not ready to follow.

Two, four, six years ago, proposals to reorganize the Game Department so as to give it a better chance to serve the sportsmen of the state were received with smiles by the "practical" political public. Such proposals were regarded as just a wild dream on the part of well-intentioned cranks. Today both political parties stand pledged to institute this reform. Nor are these pledges merely empty sops to quiet a minority opinion. Both parties have demonstrated a real and intelligent interest, not only in the reform, but in what is even more important, the best ways and means for bringing it about. Both parties have borrowed the Pine Cone mailing list and written letters—laying their plans before the individual sportsmen of the state.

Unless all signs fail, some real thorough-going action will be taken by the coming administration and the coming legislature. Action is bound to come, because the public, not merely the G. P. A. or the sportsmen, is demanding it.

## THE DELUGE.

The G. P. A. is receiving hundreds of reports from all over the state, to the following effect:

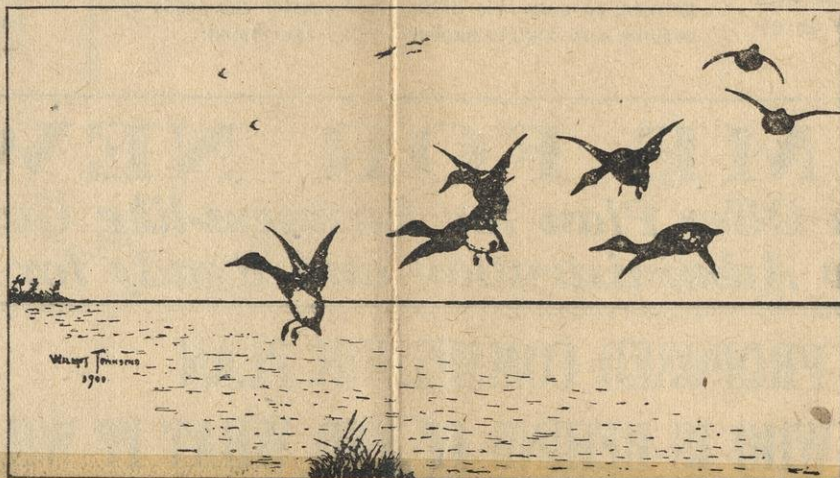
1. An almost unbelievable number of hunters are in the field. The most remote places swarm with them.

2. An unprecedented amount of damage is being done to livestock and property. Many landowners who never before thought of posting their property are indignant over the depredations of unscrupulous shooters.

3. An exceedingly heavy kill of game is taking place. The game supply will be severely taxed, even in the most remote places.

Why spill a lot of ink about what this all means? Every thinking sportsman already knows that it means a wholesale posting of private lands, and the decent sportsman will suffer for the thoughtlessness or ignorance of this deluge of vandals.

WARNING: Unless these shooters improve their standards of sportsmanship of their own accord, we will wake up one of these fine mornings to find a law on the books making it a criminal offense to hunt on any private land without the owners' previous written consent. We will also wake up without any game to go after.



## THE RIVER

No one but an Irishman could have made the profound observation that it is an example of the inexhaustible wisdom of a far-seeing Providence that large rivers are always made to flow past great cities. To this providential arrangement even the towns and villages of the central Rio Grande are no exception, for did not the conquistadores call it el Rio Grande del Norte—the Great River of the North—and is it not great, if not in volume, at least in length, in fickleness, in treachery, and even in generous bounty to an arid land?

Yet it must be written that many people—sad wights—live on the banks of the Rio Grande who know not its greatness nor its beauty. To them it is either a raging flood or a lazy, restless, shifting, insignificant stream. Its muddy waters yield no trout. It is too murky to swim in. Horses get stuck in its quicksands. Only fools would think of boating in its shallow but treacherous currents. True, its waters have given life to the fields of Mexican farmers for two centuries or longer, and to semi-civilized Indians centuries before that, but only laboriously and with the ever present menace of flood and ruin.

But the critics are not duck-hunters. Here again one sees the versatility of Providence in surmounting obstacles, for He knew that the average run of men would never see the beauty of this strange river, and so He created ducks, well knowing that hunters would pursue them and that only duck-hunters would have the perspicacity, the patience, the enthusiasm at last to assess the Rio Grande at its true worth.

So it is that hunters have a generous income of pleasure from the valley of the Rio Grande, and sometimes even gaze

## EL PASO G. P. A. TAKES BULL BY THE HORNS

The El Paso G. P. A., the youngest but now biggest of the local clubs affiliated with the New Mexico Association, is putting through a regular whirlwind campaign for game conservation in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Nearly 500 members are already signed up, and the officers claim 1,000 in sight.

Posters have been put up all over the El Paso country offering a reward of ten dollars for information on game law violations, and a good sized flock of law-breakers have already been successfully prosecuted. A special committee is working to stock up the Elephant Butte dam and secure the establishment of a federal fish hatchery. The lower valley until recently was notorious for law-breaking, but it looks now as if it would soon be a model for the remainder of both Texas and New Mexico.

The Pine Cone extends hearty congratulations to the El Paso sportsmen for their excellent work, which is simply another example of how the game movement is accumulating momentum throughout the Southwest. Five years ago game protection in New Mexico was a joke; today it is a force to be reckoned with from Colorado to the border.

## THE FEDERAL HUNTING LICENSE AND THE FUTURE OF WATERFOWL

There is just one more thing that needs to be done to insure the perpetuation of a fair amount of duck shooting for the future. That one more thing is to buy up the more important remaining breeding and shooting grounds, so as to save them from destruction by drainage and from monopolization by private clubs.

It is perfectly futile for the United States government to merely protect ducks and geese from over-shooting, when it is dead certain that ten years from now the main breeding grounds will be drained and the main shooting grounds will be closed to the general public. It is even more futile to oppose drainage or rant against private clubs. If the public wants to preserve the breeding grounds and shooting grounds, let the public buy them.

Buying up these lands will, of course, require big money. Where is the money going to come from? That Congress could or should make sufficient direct appropriations is both unlikely and uncertain. There is therefore only one course open—to tax that part of the public most directly benefited, namely, the sportsmen. This tax would take the form of a stamp placed by the local postmaster upon the regular state hunting license, and would cost 50 cents. This tax would raise a fund of one to two million dollars each year.

Certain sportsmen and certain officials have raised the objection that there is no need of the federal government doing this work; that the states can do it equally well. But every unprejudiced man knows that Oregon is not going to buy swamps to raise ducks for New Mexico; neither is New Mexico going to buy swamps in Oregon to raise ducks for Texas. It is an interstate problem, and must be handled by the federal government or not at all.

It will doubtless be impossible, even if this plan goes through, to save all the breeding grounds or all the shooting grounds. But the big thing is that this plan will provide funds, not only for saving but for developing and protecting. One federal breeding ground fenced against livestock and varmints and patrolled against egg-hunters will produce more ducks than half a dozen in a state of nature. One public shooting ground planted with duck foods, provided with rest days, and patrolled against night-shooting will produce more shooting than half a dozen do at present.

What about it, Mr. Duck-hunter?

## RINGNECKS FOR NEW MEXICO?

Chinese or ring-necked pheasants are now successfully established in the neighborhood of Denver. It is not unlikely, therefore, that given good wild stock to start with, they could be successfully introduced in the moister parts of New Mexico, provided the country selected contains grainfields, swampy thickets, and gravelly spots, and provided vermin are not too abundant.

Great caution should be observed, however, in putting out pheasants in a quail country. State Game Warden Prochaska of Arizona reports that pheasants introduced into the Salt River Valley ran all the quail out of the neighborhood. Of the two birds, the native quail are, of course, by far the more desirable.

The most likely regions for pheasants would seem to be the lower courses of trout streams, above the quail belt, in the northern parts of the state.

No stock except strictly wild birds is worth trying. The usual "game farm" pheasant is simply a glorified chicken and can not stand the hard knocks.

## GOOD LUCK TO COLORADO.

All New Mexico sportsmen will be glad to hear that Colorado has appeared on the game map with a real, live Game Protective Association. Whatever helps a state to conserve its game also helps neighboring states to conserve theirs—mutual effort means mutual encouragement. We welcome the Colorado G. P. A. to our common job, and hope for the day when Arizona and Texas will start statewide organizations also.

Colorado has done a good deal more than organize—she has laid out a real program and elected some real leaders to carry it out. We predict big accomplishments for the Colorado sportsmen's movement, and wish it all possible success.

Quite a few Blue-wings were killed along the Rio Grande the first week of the duck season.

## THE CAMP YOU LEFT BEHIND

YOU—Do you remember it with pleasure? Would you be glad to have anybody know it was *your* camp? Or is it full of tin cans and garbage and old socks, with whiskey bottles and doe-heads scattered around in the brush? "By their camps ye shall know them."

Question: If a party returns after ten days in the woods with a whole buck apiece and three whole turkeys apiece, what did they eat? Beef, does, turkey or scenery?

Don't kill pets. When you jump a flock of quail out of a farmer's corral, the chances are that they are the farmer's pet bunch. Show him you appreciate his efforts by letting that covey alone.

"As a man soweth, so also shall he reap." Who is restocking your favorite trout stream this year? Blanks for requisitioning trout fry will be gladly supplied by the G. P. A., provided you are prepared to handle the fry when they arrive at destination.

"Cities and thrones and powers  
Last in time's eye  
Almost as long as flowers  
That daily die.  
Ho, then, for the hunt!"



# Draft of Bill for a New Mexico State Game and Fish Commission

(Note: This draft contains important revisions of the previously published bill, based on carefully considered criticisms by authorities on the subject.)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico:

## SECTION 1.—PURPOSE OF GAME COMMISSION BILL:

It is the purpose of this bill to provide an adequate and flexible system for the protection of the game and fish of New Mexico and for their use and development for public recreation and food supply.

## SECTION 2.—STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION—CREATION:

To carry out the purposes and provisions of this Act there is hereby created a State Game and Fish Commission, which shall be composed of three members. They shall serve without pay, and shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. One member shall serve for two years, one member for four years, and one member for six years. Not more than two members shall be chosen from any one political party.

## SECTION 3.—MEETINGS:

Within sixty days after this Act shall take effect, the State Game and Fish Commission shall meet at the capital and organize by electing from its membership a Chairman and thereafter one meeting shall be held annually and others at the call of the Governor or a majority of the Commission. The State Game Warden shall be secretary of the Commission.

## SECTION 4.—STATE GAME WARDEN—QUALIFICATIONS:

The State Game and Fish Commission shall employ a state game warden who shall continue in office at the pleasure of the Commission, at a salary not to exceed \$4,000 per annum, and who shall be a person having special fitness and ability for the duties of state game warden. The state game warden shall be the administrative head of the State Game Department and custodian of its property and records, shall maintain his office at the seat of the state government, shall devote his entire time to his official duties, and shall exercise the powers of the State Game and Fish Commission in the interim of its meetings, but subordinate thereto.

## SECTION 5.—EMPLOYEES:

The state game warden may be authorized by the State Game and Fish Commission to incur such expenditures and employ such assistants as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, who shall be subject to his orders, provided, that the aggregate of all salaries and other expenditures of the State Game Department and the State Game Commission shall not exceed the game protection fund, which shall include all receipts from the sale of all licenses and permits sold by the State Game Department, receipts from the sale of seized game, and of beaver hides and fish fry, and civil damages collected for violations of the State game law.

The Commission may require of any employee such bond as it considers necessary to protect the public interest.

## SECTION 6.—EXPENSES:

The members of the State Game and Fish Commission shall receive no pay for their services as members of the Commission, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary travelling expenses and subsistence while absent from their homes in attendance upon meetings of the Commission or in the discharge of their official duties. All salaries, per diem, and contingent expenses incurred by the State Game Department or the State Game Commission shall be paid upon warrants of the State Auditor, supported by vouchers of the State Game Warden, or of the Commissioners.

## SECTION 7.—POWERS:

The State Game and Fish Commission shall carry out the purposes and provisions of this Act, and is hereby authorized and directed to make such rules and regulations and establish such service as are necessary thereto, and any violation of the provisions of this Act, or of any rules and regulations promulgated by the State Game and Fish Commission thereunder, governing the hunting, taking, capturing, killing, attempting to take, capture or kill, selling, purchasing, or shipping any game or fish, shall

constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$25 or more than \$300, or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than five days or more than thirty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Provided, that any rule or regulation established by the Commission shall not become effective unless and until approved by the Governor. And, provided further, that this Act shall not be construed as authorizing the Commission to lengthen any open season or to declare a closed season on any predatory species, or to open any closed season fixed by the legislature, or increase any bag limit, or change any penalty for violation of any game law or regulation or any charge for licenses established by the legislature.

The authority vested in the Commission shall include the following:

To establish and operate fish hatcheries for the purpose of stocking public waters of the State, and to furnish fish fry and fingerlings at cost to stock private waters, receipts from such sources to go into the game protection fund.

To declare closed seasons in any specified locality or localities, on any species of game or fish threatened with undue depletion from any cause.

To establish game refuges for the purpose of providing safe sanctuaries in which game may breed and replenish adjacent hunting ranges; it being the purpose of this provision to establish small refuges rather than large preserves or to close large areas to hunting.

To purchase lands for game refuges, where suitable public lands do not exist; to purchase lands for fish hatcheries; and to purchase lands to be maintained perpetually as public hunting grounds, particularly lands suitable for waterfowl hunting; all such lands to be paid for from the fish and game fund.

To receive by gift or bequest, in the name and on behalf of the State of New Mexico, lands suitable for game refuges, hunting grounds, fish hatcheries, or for any other purpose necessary to carrying out the provisions of this Act.

To designate certain areas as rest-grounds for migratory birds, in which hunting shall be forbidden at all times or at such times as the Commission shall provide, it being the purpose of this provision not to interfere unduly with the hunting of waterfowl, but to provide havens in which they can rest and feed without molestation.

To close any public stream or lake or portion thereof to fishing, when such action is necessary to protect a recently stocked water, to protect spawning waters, or to prevent undue depletion of the fish.

To propagate, capture, purchase, transport, or sell any species of game or fish needed for re-stocking any lands or streams of the State.

To require all persons purchasing a hunting or fishing license to submit a report at such time and in such manner as may be specified by the Commission, setting forth the number of game animals and birds killed by such person during the preceding hunting season and the localities where killed, and any person failing to submit such report or wilfully falsifying such report may, in the discretion of the Commission, be denied license privilege for the ensuing hunting season.

To withhold license privileges for not to exceed two years from any non-resident procuring a resident license through misrepresentation, or hunting without a proper license.

The Commission, and, in the interim of its meetings, the State Game Warden, shall exercise all the powers and duties conferred upon the State Game and Fish Warden by all previous statutes now in force, not in conflict with this Act.

The Governor shall have authority to prohibit all hunting in periods of extreme forest fire danger, at such times and places as may be necessary to reduce the danger of destructive forest fires.

The hunting, pursuing, capturing, killing, or wounding of any game animal, bird or fish in or

upon any game refuge, rest ground, or closed water, or during any closed season established or proclaimed by the Commission in accordance with the authority herein conferred shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable as prescribed in this section.

## SECTION 8.—POSTING:

All refuges, sanctuaries, rest grounds, and closed lakes or streams, or closed portions of lakes and streams, shall be conspicuously posted with posters setting forth their purposes and the penalties for violating the rules and regulations applicable to them. Not less than fifteen days before any refuge, sanctuary, rest ground or closure of waters becomes effective, publication shall be made as provided in Section 11 of the boundaries of such refuges, rest grounds, and closed waters, such boundaries to be accurately designated by definite topographic features, fences, roads, trails, or survey lines. Such posting and publication shall constitute full and sufficient legal notice against the violation of laws, rules or regulations applicable to such refuges, sanctuaries, rest grounds or closed lakes or streams, or portions thereof.

## SECTION 9.—AUDITS:

The Commission shall cause to be made, at the close of each fiscal year, a full and complete audit of all receipts and expenditures of the game protection fund, by the State Auditor or by a certified public accountant, who shall report his findings to the Governor; and at the same time shall publish, in a newspaper of general circulation, a detailed statement of all receipts and expenditures for the preceding fiscal year.

## SECTION 10.—PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Whenever five per cent (5%) of the duly qualified electors of any County affected by a rule or regulation promulgated by the Commission concerning hunting or fishing within said County shall petition the Governor in writing requesting a hearing, the Commission shall grant a public hearing, the time, place and purpose of which shall be set forth by advertisement in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the State not less than ten (10) days before the date of such hearing; and shall, on the date of hearing, give full opportunity for all persons to be heard on the point of controversy. But nothing in this section shall be construed as suspending or invalidating any such rule or regulation, unless it is suspended or revoked by the Commission.

## SECTION 11.—PUBLICATIONS:

Rules, regulations, and orders of the State Game Commission shall be published in the following manner:

(1) Those having general application throughout the State shall be published once in some newspaper published in, and having general circulation throughout the State.

(2) Those of general or special character having local application only shall be published once in some newspaper published in, and having general circulation in the locality wherein such rules, regulations, and orders are applicable; provided, however, that if no such newspaper is so published and circulated, a copy of such rules, regulations, and orders shall be posted in three conspicuous places in the locality in which they are applicable.

## SECTION 12:

Section 2424 of Chapter 47 of the session laws of 1915, Chapter 18 of the session laws of 1919, and Chapter 134 of the session laws of 1919, and so much of any other existing law as is inconsistent or in conflict with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed.

## SECTION 13:

That it is necessary for the preservation of the public peace and safety of the inhabitants of the State of New Mexico that the provisions of this Act shall become effective at the earliest possible time, and therefore an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.



## THE FUTURE OF QUAIL SHOOTING IN NEW MEXICO

For the first time in several years, there was a bumper crop of quail along the Rio Grande this fall. But there was also a bumper crop of hunters. Two weeks after the season opened, covey after covey in the vicinity of Albuquerque were already shot down to three or four birds.

It has been a common sight this fall to see three or four men stay with a single covey all day long, literally doing it to death. Take four men with big guns, 200 shells and a dog or two, and let them rag a single covey of birds all day, and then repeat this performance every Sunday until Christmas, and it is really a wonder that there are any birds left at all.

Even three years ago there was many a little corner or pocket near Albuquerque which only one or two hunters knew about, and where good shooting was always assured. This year there are swarms of hunters everywhere, and all the old pet places are being shot out.

There may be localities in the southern part of the state where there is so much cover and feed and so many birds that there is nothing to worry about. But there is no dodging the fact that for the average community, one of two things must be done: *Either (a) the amount of hunting must be reduced, or (b) the annual production of birds must be increased.*

Reducing the amount of hunting can easily be done through shortening the season, cutting the bag limit, increasing the license fee, and encouraging the posting of lands. But while these things can and will be done if there is no other way out, it must be admitted that they are an undesirable solution of the problem, to be used only as a last resort.

It is a splendid thing for these thousands of men and boys to enjoy the benefits of quail shooting. But it is up to them to "come alive" and save their sport, or go without.

To come to the point: The second alternative, increasing the annual production of quail, is perfectly practical right now in the Rio Grande Valley. It is simply a question of whether the sportsmen will go to the trouble of giving Nature a little help. This is the way to go about it:

First: Let a congenial group of sportsmen pick out a tract of land that includes (a) grainfields, (b) water, (c) sagebrush, or other cover bordering on the grainfields. This cover should be on sandy or gravelly land.

Second: Make a deal with the owners of the land whereby the following things will be done:

- All house-cats either belled or killed.
- All stray dogs killed.
- Coyotes, skunks, etc., kept trapped out.
- Injurious hawks kept shot off.
- Small patches of heavy brush fenced off with woven wire, artificial brush piles added if necessary, and hunting or trespassing or grazing prohibited inside these enclosures at all times. Area 1-8 to 1-2 acre each.
- No covey shall be shot down to less than 10 birds.
- Feed to be put out in fenced enclosures in case of snow.

How does it sound to you, brother sportsmen? The G. P. A. guarantees this method to produce worlds of birds if properly used. The G. P. A. guarantees a closed season on quail unless we sportsmen get busy. Are we going to do something, or are we going to sit around and cool our heels until it is too late?

Colorado duck shooters report a poor season thus far, with no big flights.

## THAT BUCK YOU LEFT IN THE WOODS

An alarming number of cases are being reported this fall of deer mortally wounded but never found, in spite of the most conscientious efforts of the hunter. An alarming proportion of these cases are of deer hit with 30-30's or other rifles too low in power and calibre to be strictly in the class of big game weapons. This raises the question of whether the waste of crippled deer could be reduced through setting a minimum legal standard of rifle for deer hunting.

There are many good arguments both pro and con. A high power rifle always tempts the hunter to shoot too far and to "fog up the whole bunch," and this in itself produces many cripples. Moreover, the high-powered weapons are more dangerous to humans, property and livestock. Again, the average rancher owns a 30-30 because it is right for coyotes, and because it is the handiest saddle gun ever invented, and it would be a bit rough to require him to own still another gun for deer. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the 30-30 is not a sure killer even when used carefully and skillfully at short range.

The G. P. A. would like to have your guess as to the percentage of crippled deer left in the woods, and your opinion as to what can be done about it.

## "PLAY THE GAME SQUARE"

Potting ducks on the water is like holding five aces—it increases the bag but destroys the sport.

Beating the sunset rule is like hogging the chuck box—it's small potatoes.

Crippling up game out of range is like killing the goose that lays the eggs—and then losing the goose.

Piecing out the other fellows's bag limit is like licking his plate—it can be done, but isn't.

### THE TOURIST SCOURGE.

One of the greatest blessings of modern civilization is the automobile, but one of its greatest scourges is the careless tourist.

"There's never a law of God nor man runs north of fifty-three"—nor beyond the city limits of the careless tourist's home town. The thin crust of civilization seems to rub off of some people the minute they enter a new country. It was thus when the Vandals invaded Italy—when the Germans invaded Belgium—and it continues thus, to a degree, when the annual tourist army invades New Mexico.

The most beautiful camp spots along our highways are littered with melon rinds, tin cans, and Sunday supplements. Signs for the direction of travellers are riddled with bullet holes. Under the trees and telephone poles lie the remains of thousands of birds, many of them beneficial, shot down in cold blood from the passing cars. And now, to cap the climax, come repeated reports of tourist camps found full of quail or duck feathers, a month and more before the opening of the season. Ammunition dealers report that many tourists boast openly of the game they have killed contrary to law and without license.

Tourists may be a handsome source of revenue and all that sort of thing, but we venture the belief that the average New Mexican would prefer for the Vandal brand of tourist to keep his money and stay at home. Real folks, of course, are always welcome to our state, and the more of them the better, but we cordially invite the other kind, no matter where they live or how much money they have, to get out and stay out of our borders.

## ARIZONA GAME COMMISSION BILL DEFEATED

The initiative Bill providing for an Arizona State Game Commission, sponsored by the Arizona State Game Department and certain officers of the Arizona Sportsmen's Association, was defeated at the November 2 election.

The bill was a bad bill and its defeat shows good judgment on the part of the voters. It provided for a political instead of a non-political Commission, failed to satisfactorily define the functions of the Commission and the Warden, failed to delegate needed regulatory powers, and obstructed predatory animal control. It was a typical illustration of bad legislation in a good cause. It was strongly opposed by the Northern Arizona Game Protective Association, who deserve credit for their successful fight.

But checking a step backward is not taking a step forward. It remains to be seen what constructive action Arizona is going to take with respect to her game.

Doves smelled a cold winter this year, and went south early. Last year enough stray birds remained in spots in the upper Rio Grande valley to furnish good shooting—if you found the spot—even in winter, but this year there is hardly a dove north of Socorro.

Shooting gulls and kildees for practice is like sticking hogs for pleasure—it speaks for itself.

Leaving a dirty camp is like a pig's track,—it shows what kind of a critter was there last.

Sportsmen play the game square. Others call anything square which gets the game.

### WHICH ARE YOU?

### Ten Things That YOU Can Do for Game Protection in Your Town. Try Them.

- If you believe in the Game Commission Bill, go and tell your newly elected state senator or representative.
- Post a copy of the game laws in your local postoffice, town hall, garage, farm bureau, and hardware store.
- Requisition some fish to restock your favorite stream. We furnish blanks if you are prepared to handle the fry.
- Go and get acquainted with your local Deputy Game Warden. If he seems to be in earnest, tell him he has your backing.
- Ask the schoolteacher whether she is going to give a course in bird-study next spring. We can tell her where to get material.
- Ask your friend the stockman whether he has instructed his employees to help protect the antelope—if there are any.
- "Leave a patch of cover" on your farm, and fence it for the quail. Make it a little game refuge.
- Kill that stray cat. She eats birds, not mice.
- Show your boy how to build a bird-house.
- Pass on your copy of the Pine Cone to somebody else that's interested.

GEORGE WON'T DO THESE THINGS; WILL YOU?

Have you ever noticed how often you will jump a flock of quail, a hawk, and a wild house-cat out of the same thicket? There's a reason. Tend to that cat first. You can then kill a mess of quail with a perfectly good conscience.

A peg-legged quail was killed near Albuquerque recently. The leg had evidently been cut off while the bird was quite young, and a flat callous as big as a hazelnut had formed on the stump. Little peg-leg could run right along with the bunch, and was just as big and fat as the rest of the brood.

### ROAST PIG.

Have you read Charles Lamb's "Dissertation on Roast Pig?" Several thousand years ago, a Chinese boy accidentally set fire to his father's house. As was the custom in those days, the pigs were kept in the parlor; and the fire not only destroyed the home but roasted a family of sizeable porkers to brown perfection. Sing Lung, or whatever the boy's name was, in prowling through the embers trying to locate his pocket knife, burnt his fingers on a roast pig. Applying a primitive method of first aid, he stuck his fingers in his mouth, gave a startled ex-

clamation of delight, and experienced—for the first time in human history—the delectable flavor of roast pig. Such is the conservatism of the Chinese character that for more than three thousand years whenever a Chinaman wanted roast pork for dinner he locked the pigs in the drawing room and burned down the house. This produced excellent roasts, but was hard on houses.

To "protect" game by killing it off to the vanishing point and then clapping on a state-wide closed season for several years is exactly analogous to the Chinese recipe for roasting pork.

There is a growing amount of talk about the need for a closed season on deer in New Mexico. This talk comes not merely from enthusiastic game protectors, but from the general rank and file of hunters. It shows the growing interest in game, the consciousness that big game is getting scarce, and the longevity of certain traditional methods of game protection.

If our present antiquated methods of game protection are to be continued indefinitely, let us by all means get a closed season. At the present rate of destruction, with no adequate provision for breeding, it is not a pipe-dream to say that deer are within a measurable distance of extinction in the State.

But the G. P. A. is bending all its energies toward supplanting these antiquated methods by a rational systematic flexible plan of game protection and game propagation. In a nutshell that plan is for game refuges and local closed seasons when and where needed, and to have these needs determined by a competent game commission and by its responsible agent, a competent, long-term game warden.

We want roast pig and plenty of it, but we don't, in this twentieth century, want to continue burning the house down in order to get it.

### POP-GUNS AND BAG LIMITS.

When a man chronically afflicted with shotgun-itis begins to bring in bag-limits with considerable regularity, it is time for that man, if he be a true sportsman, to begin thinking about switching to a popgun. If he is shooting a twelve, he should consider a sixteen; or if he is shooting a sixteen, he should figure on a twenty; or if there be any Leatherstockings extant who shoot too well even with a twenty, they should ponder on that true pea-shooter, the twenty-eight.

Any man who has learned that it is skill and not blood for which a true sportsman goes afield, is bound to admit that a bag limit should be an exceptional event, not a daily performance. Whether regularity in killing bag-limits is due to abundance of game or to exceptional skill does not matter; the very fact that success is attained too often causes it to be no longer true success. When you ask your friend, John Jones, "What luck?" and he replies with a bored countenance that he got the limit, then there is something wrong with John Jones. Getting the limit ought to be a rare enough event for anybody to brag about, frankly and openly, like a schoolboy.

Of course, there are ungenerous or ignorant men who claim that game is as easy to get with a twenty as with a twelve. It is possible, of course, for a good twenty to shoot better than a poor twelve, and undoubtedly the lighter weight of the small gun makes for quicker pointing, but generally speaking, the man who brings home the bacon with a popgun gets it with his skill rather than with his gun, and deserves credit accordingly.

It is not true, however, that the man who adopts a popgun places himself under a hopeless handicap too great for skill to overcome. Dr. A. K. Fisher, of the Biological Survey, told some Albuquerque sportsmen recently about killing five geese in one afternoon with his 28-gauge, every bird stone dead. It was skill, rather than artillery, that knocked down these birds. Five geese with a twelve gauge would be a notable performance on the Rio Grande—a performance worthy of comment for the rest of the season, but five geese with a twenty-eight gauge would be an achievement to be remembered for a couple of generations.

In the old days, when it was too easy for a man to kill twenty quail, he killed forty. That showed his skill. Today, should it become too easy for a man to kill twenty quail, he should swap for a popgun and kill fifteen. That shows not only his skill but his sportsmanship.

FROM  
**The Pine Cone**  
Albuquerque, N. M.

TO