

CLINTON R. GUTERMUTH:
PIONEER CONSERVATIONIST AND THE
NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF AMERICA

An Interview Conducted by
Elwood R. Maunder

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INTRODUCTION

Join any group of conservationists and you will soon hear reference to "Pink" Gutermuth. More likely you will come face to face with Clinton Raymond Gutermuth, for he is rarely far removed from the action if it has to do with matters of conservation. His participation in the conservation movement reads like a chronology of conservation history since the 1920s. This is especially true in the area of wildlife management but extends into many other concerns connected with quality of environment--forestry, fisheries, wilderness, soil, water, minerals, nature trails, wild rivers. If there is a ubiquitous in the conservation field, it must be "Pink" Gutermuth.

This volume of oral history is an attempt to capture some of the story and personality of this unusual Hoosier who came out of the banking business to make a life's work of conservation causes. The idea for putting Dr. Gutermuth "on tape" was first broached to me several years ago at lunch in the Cosmos Club by Henry E. Clepper, author of at least a score of conservation history books and articles. In good time, Henry persuaded both the Forest History Society, which he has served as a director for many years, and the Natural Resources Council of America, which he has served since its inception in 1946, to sponsor a series of oral history interviews with leaders of American conservation. This interview with Dr. Gutermuth is the first to be completed in book form. Others, hopefully, will follow.

Fear that the great American horn of plenty would fail to yield a continuing and ever-increasing stream of natural wealth was forecast in the nineteenth century by prophets such as George Perkins Marsh, John A. Warder, and Christopher C. Andrews. But not until the beginning of this century did their warnings bring pause to any considerable number of Americans, who had been previously believers in the legend of inexhaustibility.

The conservation movement is therefore a relatively late-blooming force in American history, and its origins, leadership, and evolution during the last three-quarters of a century have only recently become subjects of intensive study by scholars and writers of history. A spate of publications issued by conservation associations, societies, councils, committees, institutes, and federations have aroused public opinion to a new peak of concern with the declining quality of the environment. At such a time it is desirable to take more careful stock of the history of the conservation movement, to assure the preservation of its documentation in the fullest possible way in

our libraries and archives and to set down more systematically the memoirs of men and women who have been leaders in and articulate observers of this important part of our history.

The invention and development of the tape recorder has provided the professional historian with a valuable new tool by which the memories of men and women can be drawn upon to supplement the documentary and published sources of recent history. The recently deceased American historian, Professor Allan Nevins of Columbia University, has been generally recognized as the father of tape-recorded oral history. He began his experiment with the method in the late 1940s by making a series of interviews with Oklahoma oil wildcatters. Shortly thereafter other historians began their own tests of the method including that launched by the Forest History Society. The Society's first tape-recorded interviews were made in 1952. The Society has built a library of more than 200 oral history interviews of which this volume is the latest added to the shelf.

The reader should not look for polished prose in this or any other oral history interview. This is the transcript, only modestly revised by its authors, of a series of conversations between Clinton Raymond Gutermuth, the respondent, and Elwood Rondeau Maunder, the interviewer. The interviews were made July 6 and 7, 1973 in the office of Dr. Gutermuth in Washington, D.C. All tapes made in the interview are preserved in unexpurgated form by the Forest History Society at Santa Cruz, California. Typewritten transcripts of the tapes were made by Mrs. Barbara D. Holman. Research in preparation for the interviews was conducted by the interviewer and Dr. Susan R. Schrepfer. Mrs. Holman prepared the index, arranged details of illustration and supervised hardcover publication. The work will be reproduced in microfiche form to permit low-cost distribution to libraries and individual purchasers when funds for this purpose are made available.

The Gutermuth interview is the first of two interviews on the origins of the Natural Resources Council of America and recent conservation history which were jointly sponsored by the Forest History Society and the NRCA. A second interview made with Dr. Alfred Clarence Redfield, emeritus senior oceanographer of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and first chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America, will be issued in similar book form by the Forest History Society later this year. These works of oral history were produced by their sponsors as a pilot project in the hope that their publication will encourage funding of additional oral history interviews with other leaders of American conservation.

Portions of the Gutermuth interview were first published in Forest History, Volume 17, Number 4, January 1974, under the title, "Origins of the Natural Resources Council of America: A Personal View," by C.R. Gutermuth and

Elwood R. Maunder. All uses of this work are covered by a legal agreement between the Directors of the Forest History Society and C.R. Gutermuth. The work is thereby made available for research purposes. All literary rights in the manuscript, including the right to publish are reserved to the co-authors of this work during their lifetimes and to the Forest History Society thereafter. No part of the work may be quoted for publication without the written permission of the Executive Director of the Forest History Society.

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Elwood R. Maunder

Santa Cruz, California
March 1, 1974

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE CO-AUTHORS *

Clinton Raymond Gutermuth was born August 16, 1900 at Fort Wayne, Indiana. Attended the University of Notre Dame, 1918-19. Graduate of the American Institute of Banking in 1927, postgraduate 1928. Honorary doctor of science degree from the University of Idaho in 1972. He was director of the Division of Education, Indiana Department of Conservation, 1934-40, and director of the Division of Fish and Game, 1940-42. He served as executive secretary, American Wildlife Institute in Washington, D.C., 1945-46; and was vice president of the Wildlife Management Institute from 1946 to 1971. A founder and first secretary (1946-57) of the Natural Resources Council of America, he was chairman from 1959 to 1961. A founder of the National Watershed Congress, he has been a member of the steering committee since 1954; chairman from 1958 to 1962. He was a member of the Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Committee on Fish and Wildlife, 1949-53 and 1957-61; and was a member of the Secretary of Agriculture's Committee on Wildlife from 1965 to 1969. He was appointed and served on the National Advisory Council, Public Land Law Review Commission from 1965 to 1971. He has served in the following capacities since the year indicated: trustee and secretary, North American Wildlife Foundation, 1945; secretary, director, subsequently treasurer and then president, World Wildlife Fund, 1961-73; director and secretary, Wildfowl Foundation, Inc., 1956; director and executive committee member, Citizens Committee on Natural Resources, 1954; director, American Committee for International Wild Life Protection, 1950; vice president, then president, National Rifle Association of America, 1963. As secretary of the North American Wildlife Foundation, he initiated campaigns that secured nearly \$3 million in private donations for acquiring lands that were deeded to the federal government for establishing the Great Swamp (New Jersey), Key Deer (Florida), and Cedar Point (Ohio) National Wildlife Refuges. Published numerous articles on conservation subjects, including statewide survey report, Where To Go in Indiana: Official Lake Guide, 1938; first editor of the Wildlife Management Institute's bi-weekly Outdoor News Bulletin, 1947-48; and contributing author, The Fisherman's Encyclopedia, 1950, and The Standard Book of Fishing, 1950. Program chairman of the annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference since 1946. He has received the Aldo Leopold Memorial Award Medal of the Wildlife Society in

*These biographies were adapted from, Henry Clepper, ed., Leaders of American Conservation (New York: The Ronald Press Company, 1971).

1957; the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in 1958; the Fishing Hall of Fame Award in 1958; the Watershed Man of the Year Award from the National Watershed Congress in 1963; the National Service Award, Keep America Beautiful, 1965; the Meritorious Service Award from the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, 1968; jointly with Dr. Ira Gabrielson, the Bald Eagle National Conservation Team Achievement Award of the National Wildlife Federation in 1970; the Horace Marden Albright Medal of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, 1971; the Citizen of the Year Award from the American Forestry Association, 1971. In recognition of his leadership in conservation, Dr. Gutermuth was awarded the Order of the Golden Ark by the prince of The Netherlands in 1972.

Elwood Rondeau Maunder was born April 11, 1917 in Bottineau, North Dakota. University of Minnesota, B.A. 1939; Washington University at St. Louis, M.A. (modern European history) 1947; London School of Economics and Political Science, 1948. He was a reporter and feature writer for Minneapolis newspapers, 1939-41, then served as a combat correspondent in the Coast Guard during World War II, and did public relations work for the Methodist Church, 1948-52. Since 1952 he has been secretary and executive director of the Forest History Society, Inc., with headquarters in Santa Cruz, California, and since 1957 editor of the quarterly Journal of Forest History. From 1964 to 1969, he was curator of forest history at Yale University Library. Under his leadership, the Forest History Society has been internationally effective in stimulating scholarly research and writing in the annals of forestry and natural resource conservation generally; 46 repositories and archival centers have been established in the United States and Canada at universities and libraries for collecting and preserving of documents relating to forest history. As a writer and editor he has made significant contributions to this hitherto neglected aspect of history, and in recognition of his services the Society of American Foresters elected him an honorary member in 1968. He is a charter member of the international Oral History Association of which he was one of the founders. He is also a member of the Agricultural History Society, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, and the American Forestry Association.



C. R. "Pink" Gutermuth with neighbor's dog,
about 1907.

BACKGROUND

Elwood R. Maunder: Have you ever been interviewed in this fashion before?

C.R. Gutermuth: No. The Wildlife Society started to do something like this several years ago. They had asked me for an appointment, which I arranged, and I think we did have one short interview, but that seemed to be the end of it as far as I was concerned.

ERM: That interview was done by someone in the Wildlife Society?

CRG: Someone in connection with the Wildlife Society, which as you know, is our professional organization of biologists and wildlife people.

ERM: But you never saw a transcript of the interview?

CRG: No. I think it probably is available from Dr. Fred G. Evenden, the executive director of the Wildlife Society here in Washington. He undoubtedly could tell you of its status; I have no knowledge of it.

ERM: What subjects were covered in the interview?

CRG: They wanted to record some of the early action in the formative days of the conservation movement in this country. What they started out to do was to get people like Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Henry E. Clepper, and some of the other pioneers who are still around to record some of their experiences. I do not know the status of that noble idea.

ERM: The reason I asked is that I don't want to have you repeat what you might already have done.

CRG: Nothing that I might have done in the earlier interview would be of any particular significance in connection with this one.

FAMILY LIFE AND EARLY CAREER

ERM: Could you give me a bit of your own background, in particular, your origins, where your family came from.

CRG: I am a Hoosier. I was born on a farm near Fort Wayne, Indiana, on August 16, 1900. My father was a blacksmith and a farmer. He later got involved in the laundry business and we moved to Elkhart, Indiana. I started out in life in the banking business. I was the assistant cashier, one of the junior officers, of the largest bank in Elkhart County.

From early boyhood I was extremely interested in the out-of-doors. We had a family cottage at Christiana Lake in Michigan, which is just across the Indiana state line from Elkhart. My early indoctrination with the out-of-doors was quite pronounced, because we spent all of our summers up there at the cottage. Later, when I actually got started in conservation, back about fifty-five years ago, home motion pictures were just coming into vogue, and I got a sixteen-millimeter motion picture camera with which I recorded various hunting and fishing trips, a trip across the United States, later a trip to Mexico, and still later a trip around Europe.

ERM: Some of these movies then were taken as long as fifty-five years ago?

CRG: A Mediterranean cruise and the trip through Europe were in 1938 and the one to Mexico was in 1937. I drove down there with my wife to attend the combined annual meetings of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and American Fishery Society. On my Mexican trip I took about sixteen hundred feet of film. I recorded a complete bullfight in color. I became acquainted with Juan Zinser, who was the director of game of Mexico, and he arranged for me to get a seat in the front row of the bullfight arena, with my back to the afternoon sun. The color film of those early days has faded or gone to red colors, but the action still is recorded and is very good.

ERM: Some of your film goes back earlier than that. What would the earliest be?

CRG: Going fishing and that sort of thing. I haven't given any thought to the dates of those early photographic efforts, but I was the chairman of the Game Committee of the Elkhart, Indiana Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America in 1923. I have the mimeographed sheets in my scrapbook of some of those League activities. Yes, that would be in 1923 or 1924, and I was taking movies then. I was an active layman way back then. What got me going was my desire to form local conservation clubs to get people interested in conservation. I used my film to attract people to the meetings. I would give a conservation talk and show my pictures. (That was before the days of sound pictures.) I used my movies and lectured as an incentive to form conservation clubs all over northern Indiana. Keep in mind that I still was in the banking business.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, 1934 TO 1945

Director of Education

CRG: When, in 1934, the Honorable Paul V. McNutt was elected governor of Indiana, he heard of my activities and came to Elkhart to see me. It was a Sunday morning, and he called me at 8:00 A.M. He asked me to come to the Elkhart Hotel and have breakfast with him. I never had seen or talked with him before. He told me that he regarded good business as good politics and that he wanted to develop a real wildlife resource and conservation program in the state of Indiana. He wanted to know if I would move to Indianapolis and take over as the director of education of the Indiana Department of Conservation and develop a statewide conservation club program. I turned him down at first, even though he had assured me that I would not be involved in politics and could continue doing the very thing that I had been doing, forming local clubs.

I told the governor that I did not think there was a chance in the world that my wife ever would consider leaving Elkhart, and when I got home and told her what I had told the governor, she said, "As far as I am concerned, we can move tomorrow." This perhaps is one of the most important things that induced me to phone the governor after he had returned to Indianapolis and tell him that I would like to go down there and talk with him further. I did, and that changed my whole life.

In the new program that I launched in the Department, I developed a staff of five field men. We formed twelve hundred local conservation clubs in every part of the state of Indiana. We established a comprehensive program and got the clubs to build fish hatcheries and electric game bird brooders. We provided them with day-old chicks (both pheasants and quail) from the Jasper-Pulaska State Game Farm which we were operating. While I knew that the actual creel or bag returns from those activities were not very good, I was especially interested in those activities because they provided the vehicle to get people all over the state interested in conservation work. The Department paid the clubs a specified amount for each fish or bird they released in accordance with our program, under the supervision of the state conservation officer in that county. Pheasants were put out at sixteen weeks of age and we paid

seventy-five cents for each bird they raised from day-old chicks and released.

We had a hooker in this program. We required that this state money be spent in accordance with rigid regulations that we imposed. One of the important things that we let them do was to build clubhouses. Consequently in Indiana today I think you will find around five or six hundred clubhouses owned by the local conservation clubs. These are in the small towns and villages all over the state.

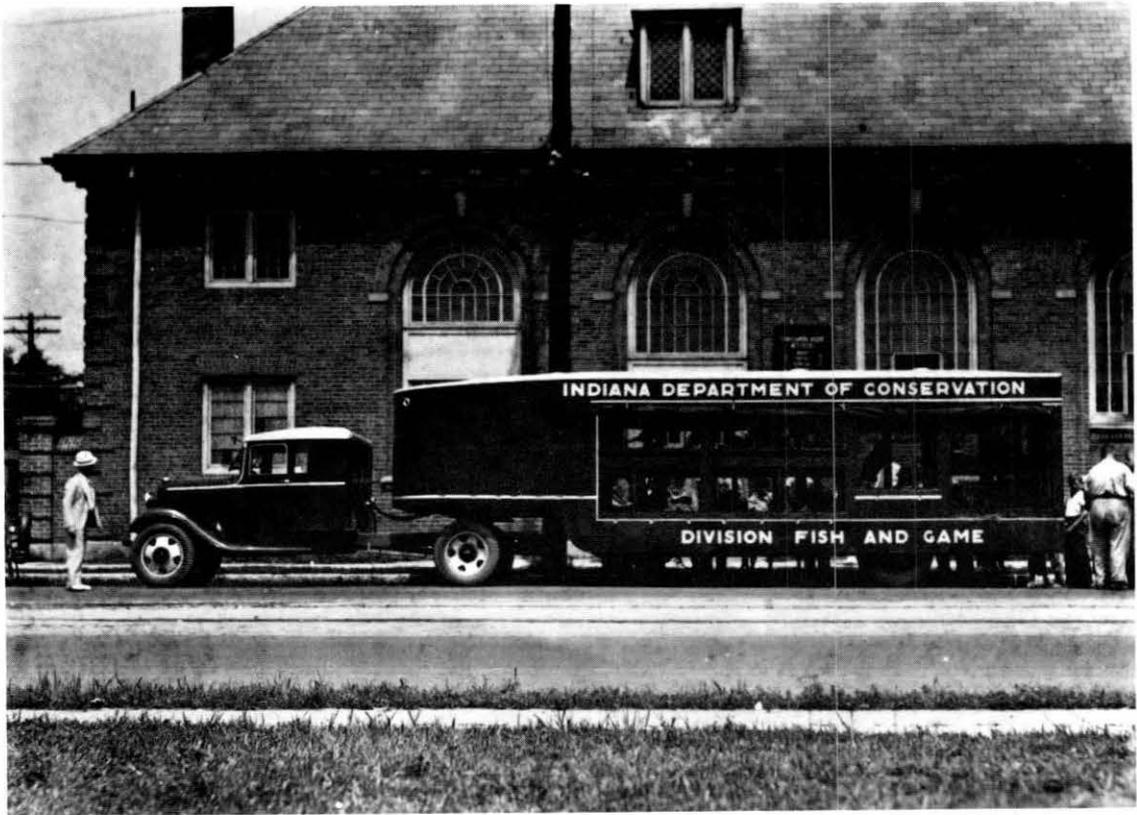
Indiana State Conservation Advisory Council

ERM: Did this same idea catch on in neighboring states?

CRG: Yes, this program became quite popular. Under our state club program each local club in each county elected a delegate to the County Conservation Council. The County Council was made up of the delegates from all of the local clubs in that county. The County Councils met at regular intervals to help promote conservation works of all kinds. We then had a delegate from each of the County Councils to their regional organization. The members of the Regional Councils likewise elected representatives who made up the Indiana State Conservation Advisory Council. This meant that we had twelve people from the twelve regions of the state meeting regularly with the Department of Conservation to discuss all aspects of our program. The system became very successful. One of the many bronze plaques on the wall in my office in the Wildlife Management Institute is from the Indiana State Conservation Advisory Council recognizing my many years in promoting that program. I cherish it greatly.

ERM: There are many advisory councils throughout the country. Some of these are quite effective, others are hardly more than social meetings. How effective would you say this one was in terms of real communication and influence with policy makers at the state level?

CRG: Ours was tremendously effective. During the time that I was the director of education in the Indiana Department of Conservation, and also later as the assistant director and director of fish and



In 1935 C.R. Gutermuth arranged for this large wildlife exhibit truck to visit all the Hoosier state's county fairs each year.

State's

Hoosier State's

game, we used the Council as a medium to stimulate support for the new programs and activities that we wanted to initiate. For example, up to 1934 there had not been a single white-tailed deer in the state of Indiana since the turn of the century. There had been no record of the sight of a deer, to my knowledge, since 1900. In other words, for the first thirty-five years of this century, there had not been a deer in the state. This, despite the fact that we abut Michigan which had deer.

My wife and I had returned from an automobile trip west, and we were tremendously impressed by the sight of deer and elk in the national parks and forests that we visited. It occurred to me then that there was no reason why we should not have deer in Indiana. At the next meeting of the Advisory Council, I brought the matter up and the talk went round and round as to whether we should reintroduce deer. It was decided that the Department should buy some deer from Michigan or Wisconsin and turn them loose in the hill country of southern Indiana. So, in 1934, we bought and released several truckloads of deer. We put out one hundred ten first. At the time of their release, the schools were recessed, and the children went out and watched the arrival and release of the deer. Do not forget that this reintroduction of deer was financed entirely with sportsmen's money. It was the hunting and fishing license fees that paid for all of the conservation work in Indiana, including law enforcement, the same as in all other states. I have no idea of the number of deer in Indiana today, but they now have them in abundance in every county.

They have an open season on deer in Indiana, and all of this has been done with the sanction and recommendation of the Advisory Council. Residents of the state now have the opportunity of going into every part of the state and seeing deer and enjoying them. This is a renewable natural resource benefiting the sportsman and everyone else, since it is providing a lot of good food for the people. Unfortunately, thousands of deer are killed by automobiles each year.

ERM: That's an example of how an advisory council serves as a vehicle for carrying an idea down to the people. Can you give me examples of how the Council might have served as a conveyer of ideas coming up from the people?

CRG: This Council met with the Indiana Conservation Department quarterly.

When Paul V. McNutt became governor, one of his close friends and former schoolmates was Virgil M. Simmons, who passed on many years ago. I think he was one of the most dramatic, forthright, and progressive men I have ever known. He was made the single commissioner of the Department of Public Works that the governor created. McNutt abolished eight agencies of government and brought their programs together in one department, and Simmons was made the commissioner.

One of Simmons's close personal friends (also a former schoolmate of the governor) was Kenneth M. [Kay] Kunkel from Bluffton, Indiana. Kunkel's father had been in the oil business and was very wealthy. He left his three children many millions of dollars. Both Simmons and Kunkel had been in school together, had gone to college together, and were the closest friends. So when young Kunkel's father left Kay several million dollars, he decided that it was unfair for his chum not to have equal status, so Mr. Kunkel gave Simmons a fortune, too. These young men were both bachelors and lived together in a penthouse in Indianapolis. They also were close friends of Wendell Willkie and a number of other outstanding people of the time.

So back to your question about advisory councils. They can be productive. I have been on advisory councils with several secretaries of the Department of Agriculture, and secretaries of the Department of the Interior. I have known all of them the past twenty-eight years. I was on the National Advisory Council of the Public Land Law Review Commission that was created by the Congress, and was chairman of the National Advisory Council of Keep America Beautiful.

With the head of the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, I helped to form the National Watershed Congress, twenty years ago. Then again, I helped to form the Natural Resources Council of America, the Citizen's Committee on Natural Resources, and the World Wildlife Fund. I incorporated the Wildlife Society, the Soil Conservation Society of America, and I could go on and sound like Major Hoople.

Advisory councils can be very effective. The one in Indiana was excellent, because when we had our quarterly meetings, we would get ideas from all parts of that state. I must confess that our job was to separate the wheat from the chaff. I would say that probably nine out of ten of the recommendations that were brought to us by the delegates from the various regions had to be modified or

discarded because they were little more than ideas. Nevertheless, every now and then one of the best suggestions in the world would come from those groups. And when the overall program was implemented, it became one of the most successful conservation programs in the United States during a period of eight or ten years.

J. N. "DING" DARLING

CRG: You asked me what effect the Indiana Advisory Council or club program had, and here is one of the best answers to that. At that time in Washington, D.C., during the first administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, one of the people that bugged the president more than anyone else was an internationally famous Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist from Des Moines, Iowa, J. N. "Ding" Darling. He was celebrated around the world and was probably one of the most fantastic cartoonists of all time. You can see his style, artistry, and originality in many of our present-day cartoonists. Some of the current ones are equally as successful. Being the astute politician that FDR was, he thought that the way to stop or control "Ding" Darling and his cartoons was to make him the Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey. That agency had control of all of the wildlife at the federal level, including migratory birds and ducks which were what "Ding" liked most.

The amazing thing about "Ding" Darling, that the average person does not recognize even now, is that he was the chief of the Biological Survey for only about eighteen months. That is almost unbelievable, because in that eighteen months he made more history in the conservation movement in this country than anyone else. He put ducks on the map. He got the refuge system going in this country. "Ding's" work went on for a long time after he left, but the point I want to emphasize is that he was in the Survey for only about a year and a half. That would have been around 1934 and 1935.

When Roosevelt found that this assignment or job could not control Darling, and nothing else could, FDR insisted on getting rid of him. In getting out, "Ding" brought in Dr. Ira M. Gabrielson as his successor. Gabrielson had been a regional director of the Bureau of Biological Survey in Portland, Oregon, but was then working in the Division of Wildlife Research in the Bureau in Washington. "Ding" had seen Gabrielson and was impressed by him. So when "Ding" decided to get out (and I do not know what else motivated that action), he took Dr. Gabe to the White House and sold the president on the idea that he should make him the new chief of the

Bureau of Biological Survey. Dr. Gabrielson stayed in that capacity until the Survey was amalgamated with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries in 1940 and became the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Dr. Gabe was, therefore, the first director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and served in that capacity until 1946.

When I came to Washington in 1945 with the American Wildlife Institute, which was one of the older private organizations in this country and which was putting on the large North American Wildlife Conferences, we talked Dr. Gabrielson into resigning and coming over as president, with me as vice-president, of a new organization to be called the Wildlife Management Institute. That organization is still going strong. That is a long story, since I served as its vice-president for twenty-six years.

Going back to where we were in Indiana. "Ding" Darling had heard of our club program--this was at the time he was chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey. He wrote to me in 1935, and I have this correspondence in my files at home. I do not know what to do with the file, it's not very large, but it is historic.

- ERM: The Forest History Society is a national repository of conservation and forest history, and we have in our collection quite a good number of major institutional record groups and personal papers.
- CRG: I know that and perhaps I should explain that I helped Art Carhart form the Conservation Library Center in Denver. I was on his Advisory Council in the beginning. But, in any event, in this regard, perhaps the correspondence I mentioned rightfully belongs to the National Wildlife Federation because that organization is what it is about.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Beginnings

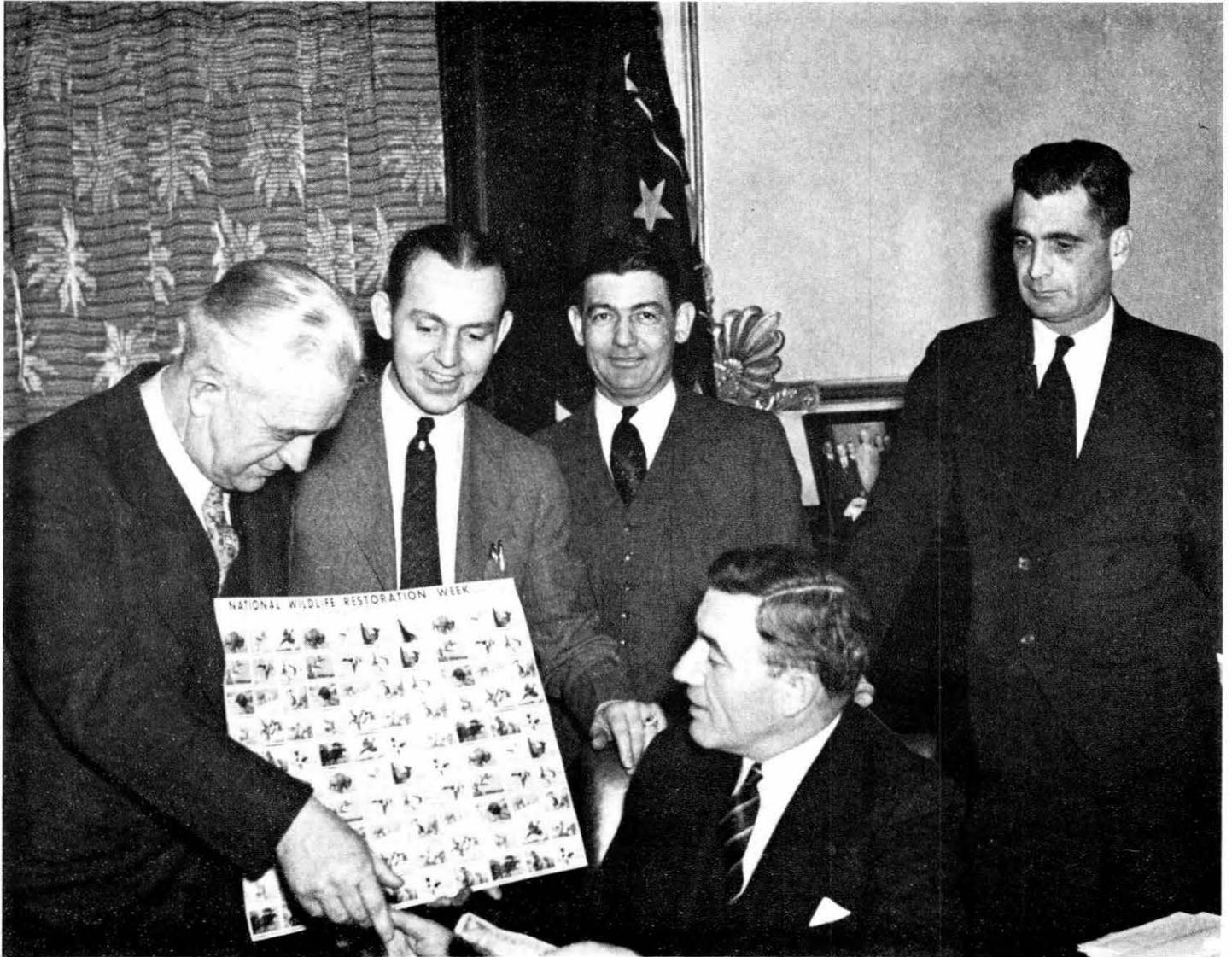
CRG: As I was saying, at that time Darling wrote to me and wanted me to outline our Indiana club program to him. This incident is, perhaps, one of the things that got me headed toward the national scene, and maybe even to stay on in the conservation movement. I outlined the program to him in a letter, and he was so fascinated with it and with how successful it had been that he asked me to come to Washington and talk with him, which I did.

In our discussions, "Ding" emphasized that we had thousands of separate and individual conservation and sportsmen's clubs over the country. He wanted to bring these clubs together and he was looking for a method of doing it. He said, "This setup that you have is just perfect for my purpose. Do you have any objection if I use it?" I said, "Heaven's no, I could not stop you if I did. It is a practical and workable plan and would be ideal if you could get it going on a nationwide basis."

He had called a meeting of leading conservationists previously, including most of the officers and trustees of the American Wildlife Institute, and they had decided to form an organization to be called the General Wildlife Federation, which was changed to National Wildlife Federation in 1938.

North American Wildlife Conference

CRG: The AWI was putting on the American Game Conferences each year, as I told you earlier, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt was talked into calling the first North American Wildlife Conference instead of the AWI American Game Conference and that brought about a change in the name of the yearly conferences.



Officials of the Indiana Department of Conservation selling sheet of the first wildlife stamps printed by the National Wildlife Federation to Governor M. Clifford Townsend of Indiana, March 1937. Standing left to right, Cecil Swain, chairman of Indiana Conservation Advisory Council; C.R. Gutermuth, director of education; V.M. Simmons, commissioner of the department of public works; and Kenneth M. Kunkel, director of fish and game.

That 1935 conference was a big meeting. It was held at the Mayflower Hotel here in Washington, D.C., and on the opening morning we were blessed with a heavy snowfall, a real blizzard. In that meeting the idea for the General Wildlife Federation was adopted but the organization was not completed until the following year. The American Wildlife Institute continued to use that new name for its annual conferences for many years, until the Wildlife Management Institute became the sponsor. Today it is called the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. I added "Natural Resources" to the name many years later. Incidentally, I was the program chairman and staged conferences for twenty-five years.

Wildlife stamps

CRG: When they formed the General Wildlife Federation they actually used the Indiana club system nationwide. While they modified the structure quite a bit over the years, the genesis of the plan was there. I was still in the Indiana Department of Conservation at the time that they were trying to figure out a method of financing the General Wildlife Federation. They did not want to do it through membership or from money raised by the local clubs. They were trying to find a way to finance the national organization separately so as not to be taking money away from the local organizations across the country, and it finally was decided to sell wildlife stamps. I could tell you a lot of interesting things about their problems in selling sheets of wildlife stamps in 1938 and 1939. I was involved only as a volunteer helper through my position in the Indiana Department of Conservation, but I did assist them a great deal.

ERM: Was this the chief method of financing the Federation?

CRG: It was the only method. In the early days the stamps were distributed through the local clubs. Since, under the Indiana Department of Conservation plan, we had clubs all over the state, we cooperated by having our game wardens deliver the large sheets of wildlife stamps (they were about thirty inches square, gummed on the back, and put together in pads) to the local clubs. Moisture caused the stamps to stick together, and you could not get them pulled apart,

and our wardens were not able to get either the stamps back or the money from some people.

The early years of the wildlife stamp sales were difficult because the Federation had real trouble in getting its money. Finally, in 1945, the National Wildlife Federation got into serious financial difficulties. The American Wildlife Institute had been providing the money to get that new organization started, through the efforts of "Ding" Darling, and it had taken promissory notes for the money that had been provided. And when I came with the Institute in Washington, one of the first things that I did was to call a special meeting of the board of the AWI to get authority to cancel the notes of the Federation. The United States Printing and Lithograph Company in New Jersey had refused to print the stamps that year because the credit of the Federation was so poor. Of course, when we cancelled our indebtedness, the Federation's financial statement went back into the black, and the stamps were printed.

At that time a high-grade businessman, Mr. Louis Wendt of Great Falls, Montana, was brought into the Federation to put its whole house in order, including the stamp program.

ERM: How much was written off in notes at that time ?

CRG: The note that we cancelled at that time was for thirty thousand dollars. We also had cancelled some earlier ones, I believe. Keep in mind that our interest was to get the Federation going. We felt that the idea of amalgamating the sportsmen's clubs was an excellent one.

ERM: Did they get the bugs out of the stamp problem ?

CRG: Yes, they solved a lot of the problems in the overall structure of the Federation and brought some practical business people into the headquarters operation. While the people in the Federation were truly sincere and conscientious conservationists, some were not experienced in business affairs and were anything but good administrators. The Federation went through quite a process of becoming stabilized over a period of years.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Vice-president

CRG: Getting back to my affairs, in 1946, six months after I came to Washington, I could see that the American Wildlife Institute, which was one of the older national conservation organizations in this country and had been going since 1911, needed to be enlarged, strengthened, and younger people brought on the board and into the organization. In bringing that about, much to my regret and reluctance, we had to give up the name American Wildlife Institute and form a new organization. We adopted the name Wildlife Management Institute. Dr. Gabrielson was made the president and I the vice-president. We took over all the business affairs of the American Wildlife Institute and continued to put on the annual North American Wildlife Conferences. We had been one of the instigators and cooperators of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit Program, which now is thriving in eighteen of the land-grant colleges across the country. Since 1935, Units located from Alabama to Maine and Arizona to Alaska have trained nearly two thousand graduate students at the master's and doctor's levels for career work in wildlife management.

ERM: You had been executive secretary of the American Wildlife Institute, had you not?

CRG: Yes, that was the position and the organization that attracted me to the nation's capitol.

ERM: In its reorganization you became vice-president of the Wildlife Management Institute.

CRG: Yes, that's right.

American Wildlife Institute, background

ERM: It was about this time, 1945 and 1946, that discussion was developing along lines of creating a Natural Resources Council of America. It is with regard especially to the history of the Council that I would like to focus this interview. How did the Natural Resources Council of America come into being?

CRG: That is a complicated story and one well worth going into in some detail. I told you previously that I came to Washington as the secretary of the American Wildlife Institute. It had been formed in New York City in 1911 as the American Game Protective and Propagation Association. It was formed by a group of wealthy sportsmen and interested conservationists in the New York area. Exotic game birds were starting to be imported into this country at that time, and this obviously had a lot to do with the forming of the organization and with the selection of its name.

In 1915 the Association began to stage the annual American Game Conferences. These were primarily to bring some of the Scottish game bird breeders to this country to discuss artificial propagation. The organization went along for a number of years and finally its name was shortened to American Game Association.

In 1935 the AGA was taken over by the American Wildlife Institute which enlarged and broadened the program. Involved on its governing body at that time were people like George Eastman of Eastman Kodak; F.B. Davis of United States Rubber Company; M. Hartley Dodge and C.K. Davis of Remington Arms Company, T.E. Doremus and R.R. Carpenter of Dupont Company, and a number of other industrialists and sportsmen. Maybe I should also name Thomas H. Beck, publisher; Walter P. Chrysler, automobile manufacturer; Max Fleishman of Fleishman Yeast Company; and Senators Harry B. Hawes and Frederic C. Walcott. Most of those prominent people were trustees when I came to Washington in 1945 as secretary of the American Wildlife Institute.

ERM: Did the organization at that time still have an important section of support from well-to-do Americans?

CRG: Yes, and after we got the reorganization worked out and formed the Wildlife Management Institute, we changed the name of the American Wildlife Institute to American Wildlife Foundation and added other trustees like Max McGraw of the McGraw-Edison

Company; Robert M. Gaylord of Ingersoll Milling Machine Company; and Robert Winthrop, a prominent broker in New York City. I could go on with more such names.

ERM: What percentage of your funding was derived from the benevolence of these men?

CRG: It really all came from them, maybe not directly, but instrumentally. Your question gets to the heart of why I insisted on the rejuvenation. When I came to Washington with the AWI in 1945 and went to my first board meeting, I got a real shock by the average age of the trustees. The president was Frederic C. Walcott, a very wealthy man who had been United States Senator from Connecticut. He was an outstanding and dedicated conservationist, a fascinating character who had been everywhere around the world and had been involved in everything, including the War Relief Hoover Commission. He was also in on the development of the atomic bomb. The treasurer was T.E. Doremus who already had retired from the Dupont Company. It quickly became clear to me that the trustees who were raising our money, the people who had the influence, were all up in years. I do not think there was a man under sixty-five years of age on the board.

This worried me. I had given up my ties in Indiana and had to create a future for the organization. I could see that the Institute needed young blood and the program needed to be broadened. We were getting substantial contributions from a number of companies in the arms industry and from many individuals who were interested in the future of sport hunting and in natural resource conservation, but the scope of the work needed to be expanded.

At this point, perhaps, I should add that some people were concerned about the fact that we were getting money from the firearms industry, but let me say that never in all of my years were our actions or programs ever motivated or directed, challenged or questioned, by these principal supporters. They always were interested in the same thing we were interested in, the preservation of our wildlife resources in the broad public interest. If I ever had any problems, I could call Mr. C.K. Davis of Remington or Mr. John M. Olin of the Winchester-Western Corporation, and they would support me fully. For example, when I went to the confidential waterfowl regulation meetings in the Department of the Interior, both of these men told me repeatedly, "Pink, whenever you are in doubt in determining the waterfowl regulations, be sure to err on the conservative side, because we must perpetuate our tremendously important migratory bird resources."

CONSERVATION NEWS SERVICE, 1945

CRG: Let me relate an incident that happened in 1945 and preceded the forming of the Natural Resources Council of America. In the beginning, my offices in Washington were in the Investment Building at the corner of 15th and K Streets, which was just two blocks from the Cosmos Club. I used to eat lunch over there quite often with Senator Walcott, the Institute president, and we conservationists frequently had meetings there. Well, some of the others had such a meeting there one day a few months after my coming to Washington, and prior to my going to the meeting I had a call from one of our prominent sponsors inquiring about a piece of important conservation legislation that was before the Congress. I had to admit to my caller that I did not know anything about the bill in question, and his reply stirred me no end. He said, "Well, you are doing a hell of a lot of good in Washington if you do not know what is going on."

About an hour later I went to the Cosmos Club for the luncheon and there at the round table was Ovid M. Butler, the executive secretary of the American Forestry Association; Kenneth A. Reid from Chicago, who was the executive secretary of the Izaak Walton League of America; John H. Baker, the president of the National Audubon Society; Henry Clepper, the executive secretary of the Society of American Foresters; Howard C. Zahniser, the executive secretary of the Wilderness Society; and Carl D. Shoemaker, who had been associated with the National Wildlife Federation in various ways, but at that time was the secretary of the Senate Committee on Wildlife. These fellows were having one of our typical conservation meetings and I joined them.

ERM: Was this a planned meeting?

CRG: Yes, and I was a newcomer and a neophyte in Washington among those celebrated people. I said to Carl Shoemaker, "Carl, you work up on the Hill and I do not want you to answer this, but I want to find out if these organizations' heads are as dumb as I am. Here I am the operating head of the American Wildlife Institute

and I have just been told over the phone how dumb I am. I want to go around this table and ask each of you individually what you know about an important wildlife bill." I did that and all of them but Carl had to confess that they did not know a thing about the bill.

Well, at that time I was forty-five and, being a brash young man, I said, "Maybe I will not be around Washington long but I am not going to have this experience again, gentlemen. I am going to find out one way or another what is going on here in the conservation field or I will get something else to do."

I knew that I could not read the Congressional Record everyday so I said to Shoemaker, "You have to look at the Record everyday, Carl, that is your business; why couldn't you make a descriptive list of the conservation bills as they are introduced and send it to us and then report on the action subsequently taken?" He said, "That is a big order. How am I going to do it? I don't have secretarial service. Who's going to pay the postage, and who's going to pay for the paper, et cetera?" I said, "We can work things out. If you will agree to volunteer to do this which you seem to do anyway because you have to know what is going on up there, we will arrange to cover the mailing expense. You are paying attention primarily to the Senate side, but I am sure you are knowledgeable about what goes on over on the House side. So, would you consider doing it if we could find the money?" He said, "Yes," and I hastened to add, "I will provide three hundred dollars to you as a starter if some of these other fellows will put up some money." I said to Ovid Butler, "What about you?" He replied, "We already have a fellow who pays attention to legislative matters. I don't think I could agree to do this right off, but we will think about it." John Baker said, "We do not need such information." Henry Clepper said, "I think I can talk my people into putting up three hundred dollars." Howard Zahniser said, "I can get my people to put in three hundred." Ken Reid volunteered, "I can do that, too." I said, "Okay, Carl, we have a twelve hundred dollar nest egg, and I will make a further commitment. I will pay any deficit over and above what we have raised right here to start the legislative news service. We want it to be simple, straight, factual information on the bills that are introduced, and on what happens to them."

I then said to John Baker, "You have the wealthiest organization in the bunch, why won't you join on this?" He did not think his people had any real interest in such legislative reports. He said, "After all, we look after those things we are interested in."

"Okay," I said, "You know, in our agreement here, Carl is going to send these news reports to all of us, and John, you are going to get them, too. When the time comes that you realize that they are of value to you, then we would like to have you join. I would like to have all of you ask all of the other conservation organizations you are associated with to join, too. We should get all of the organizations informed a little bit better."

We decided to call it the Conservation News Service. We had letterhead prepared recognizing Carl Shoemaker as the editor. This service was provided from the fall of 1945 until it was turned over to the Natural Resources Council of America when it was formed in October of 1946.

About that time the Senate Committee on Wildlife was abolished and Carl Shoemaker went to work for the National Wildlife Federation. He continued to edit the Conservation News Service at the Federation offices but under the name of the new Council.

NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF AMERICA, 1946

Meetings prior to formation

CRG: With that prelude, let us talk about the start of the Natural Resources Council of America. In the summer of 1946, we heard that Dr. Robert Griggs of the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Charles C. Adams, and others had called a meeting a few weeks earlier in St. Louis and had discussed an idea that "Ding" Darling had been pushing of forming a super organization. Since the National Wildlife Federation program was not working to his complete satisfaction, and there still were a lot of different organizations in the nation's capitol that he thought should be amalgamated into one all-inclusive organization, Darling had published a booklet with many of his drawings that outlined the reasons for having a super organization. * The meeting in St. Louis was to create such an organization, but it failed to recruit the necessary support.

ERM: You were not a party to that St. Louis meeting held September 4, 1946 at which Howard Zahniser was the temporary secretary?

I have a copy of the minutes of the organization meeting of the NRCA held at Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, October 25 and 26, 1946. In the preamble of those minutes is reviewed the previous history of interest and purposes of that meeting and including the dates of the previous meetings.

CRG: You are talking about the NRCA meeting, and I was speaking about the previous one in St. Louis that really had nothing to do with the Mammoth Cave meeting. It undoubtedly motivated us to get together, but I was referring to the previous actions and meetings that I did not attend.

ERM: There were two prior meetings to the one in St. Louis, according to the organizational meeting minutes.

*For a copy of this booklet, see Appendix A, pp. 108-35.

CRG: Those earlier meetings must have caused us to get together, because I can remember my discussions with Zahniser. He and I planned and called the meeting in Mammoth Cave.

Organization Meeting of NRCA, 1946, Mammoth Cave, Kentucky

ERM: You were secretary of the Mammoth Cave meeting. In your minutes of that meeting there is an item:

II Proof of Due Notice.* Mr. Howard Zahniser, Temporary Secretary of an earlier St. Louis meeting, submitted a copy of the Committee letter dated September 4, 1946, and advised that such formal invitation was mailed to all known national conservation organizations and scientific associations. After reviewing the contents of this invitation, the copy was ordered filed with the minutes of this meeting.

III Reading and Disposal of Minutes. The brief Memorandum of the proceedings of the conference held in St. Louis, March 30, 1946, was read by Mr. Zahniser. Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Buchheister, seconded by Dr. Woodbury, it was voted unanimously that the Memorandum of the St. Louis meeting and any available minutes or written record of the two previous meetings held in New York City, October 17, 1944, and February 12, 1945, be preserved in a permanent Minute Book.

I presume that somewhere there is a permanent minute book. And that the records of the early discussions in New York City would be at the front of such a minute book along with the meeting notes of Mr. Zahniser at the St. Louis meeting of September 4, 1946.

*Natural Resources Council of America, Minutes of the Organization Meeting, Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, 25 and 26 October, 1946. NRCA Papers, Box 3, Forest History Society, Santa Cruz, California.



Natural Resources Council of America Organization Meeting, Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, October 25 and 26, 1946. Standing left to right, Ollie E. Fink, Friends of the Land; Charles G. Woodbury, National Parks Association; Howard C. Zahniser, Wilderness Society; Dorothy M. Hill, Sierra Club; Charles C. Adams, Ecological Society of America; Harry E. Radcliffe, American Nature Association; Alfred C. Redfield, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute; C. R. Gutermuth, Wildlife Management Institute; Kenneth A. Reid, Izaak Walton League of America; Carl W. Buchheister, National Audubon Society. Seated left to right, Henry Clepper, Society of American Foresters; Carl D. Shoemaker, National Wildlife Federation; and Arthur C. McFarlan, Geological Society of America.

CRG: Being a meticulous secretary, I think you will find that the minute book is bound and that it is without question in the hands of Hamilton K. Pyles, who is the executive secretary of the NRCA now. * I presume that all of these things were tied together and that they all happened.

I helped to promote and call the meeting at Mammoth Cave, because I did not think that a super organization would work. I said to "Ding" Darling, "I think that the proposal is ridiculous. In the first place, you are asking the heads of the existing organizations to agree to their own demise. You are asking them to come together and support a program that will spell doom to their own organizations and to their own jobs. People do not function that way; I do not agree with the concept. I think that you would have a better and broader diversification of membership in a wider variety of organizations. Some people are interested in wilderness, some in parks, others in forestry, ecology, water pollution, and so forth. People are interested in and become more active in specific kinds of organizations. To have one super organization would cut down on public participation in being able to stimulate strong support for and against good and bad proposals, both at the national and state levels."

I did not agree with the idea at all, and said to Howard Zahniser, "Let's have a meeting and bring all groups together in a forum, but not in a super organization. So we called the meeting at Mammoth Cave. I do not know whether the record shows it, but I came up with the name Natural Resources Council of America. ** The various other suggestions were discussed at length.

ERM: It was discussed at great length following a written statement submitted at the meeting by Mr. Zahniser. *** This absorbs the better part of two pages of the minutes. In his statement

*For more information on Mr. Pyles's involvement with NRCA, see Hamilton K. Pyles and Susan R. Schrepfer, Multiple Use of the National Forests (Santa Cruz, Ca.: Forest History Society, 1972), pp. 134-160.

**NRCA, Minutes, 25 and 26 October 1946, p. 5.

***Ibid., p. 2-3.

Mr. Zahniser suggested the group be called the American Conservation Council. Later on in the meeting, and as the result of further discussions and a lengthy presentation by Carl Shoemaker relative to a prospectus for a Conservation News Service, it was decided, "Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Zahniser, seconded by Dr. Adams, it was voted unanimously that the meeting constitute itself the Natural Resources Council of America and proceed with the necessary action to make the arrangement permanent." * I see in the minutes that you are quoted as saying, "We certainly have discussed everything . . . should organize a permanent Council now, contract for Service for all affiliates regardless of ability to pay. That word 'Conservation' has been badly abused, it has no place in the name of this new organization, why not 'Natural Resources Council of America'." The minutes would confirm that your suggestion was adopted by the group. **

In the early part of the minutes, it is quite clear that your purpose in gathering for this meeting was to organize some such group and that its purposes should not be to create a new mammoth single organization. But instead its purpose was: ". . . that there should be organized a central service agency for conservation for the purpose of (1) providing its participating organizations with information regarding pending legislative and administrative programs and (2) furnishing such organizations assistance so far as practicable regarding sources of the most competent scientific information relating to the activities and interests of member organizations." ***

Conservation News Service: controversy and changes

CRG: Let me fill in some of the things in connection with this. You recall that nearly a year earlier we had the meeting at the Cosmos Club and started the Conservation News Service as a cooperative

*Ibid., p. 4-5.

**Ibid., p. 5.

***Ibid., p. 1.

undertaking. We had a lot of arguments among ourselves in the beginning over the nature of the reports. What was causing the trouble was that Carl Shoemaker, the editor, was editorializing on the aims and purposes of the bills. And he was saying things about certain bills that some of the different people did not agree with, which is another reason why a super organization would not work. We had corrected those complaints pretty well by the time of the Mammoth Cave meeting. And the one thing that we decided to do when the Natural Resources Council of America was formed was to make the Conservation News Service available as a Council release.

ERM: In other words, the Conservation News Service had existence prior to the establishment of the Council.

CRG: Yes, for close to a year.

ERM: And it was functioning through the Wildlife Management Institute?

CRG: No, it was put out as a separate cooperatively financed service or entity; as an amalgamated news medium that resulted from our meeting at the Cosmos Club that I mentioned earlier. It had no organizational stature. Carl was doing it for nothing. It was not owned by anyone; it was an ad hoc function. So when the Council was formed, we decided upon at least two main things. The three-hundred-dollar annual payments that were being made by several organizations would subsequently be made to the Council. The Conservation News Service would be made more official and would be issued under the sponsorship of the NRCA.

There is another thing that is not recorded anywhere that I wish to relate. When we started the Conservation News Service, Carl Shoemaker was the secretary of the Senate Committee on Wildlife. He later went to work for the National Wildlife Federation, and the Conservation News Service was reproduced on its multilith machines. The releases were mailed by the NWF employees, but they went out under the name of the NRCA.

At that time, I was still the NRCA secretary. Incidentally, I served as the voluntary secretary for about eleven years and was exceedingly proud of our legislative service. It provided the only vehicle for giving the Council members a picture of what was transpiring in the Congress.

Then, in September 1947, I went to the annual meeting of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in Denver and got up on the floor and offered to provide the NRCA Conservation News Service to the states, because I thought that all of the departments of conservation and divisions of fish and game should have that legislative information. All of the directors seemed interested in getting the service, and the only hang up was over the amount the states should pay for the releases.

What happened was one of the biggest disappointments of my life. Several of the directors wanted to get the news service for about fifty dollars per year, which could not be since many of us already were paying three hundred dollars annually to help finance it. I was holding out and contending that we could not afford to sell the service for fifty dollars a year, when David A. Aylward of Boston, the president of the National Wildlife Federation, got up and said that since his organization was doing the Conservation News Service on a voluntary basis for the Council, the Federation would run a companion letter and make it available to the state agencies without charge. From that time on, when the stencils were cut by the Federation for the Conservation News Service for the Council, the NWF made another run called Conservation Report for mailing to the states and its other cooperators. You can see that this undercut my offer, and ruined all my chances of developing the Council's Conservation News Service into a full-fledged legislative bulletin that ultimately could have become a much more effective service.

ERM: How much do the releases differ?

CRG: Not at all, they are identical. Today, however, the NRCA release is called Legislative News Service, and is an exact duplicate of the Federation's Conservation Report. The NWF also puts out an entirely different bulletin called Conservation News, but it is more of a regular narrative news letter.

ERM: You say that the companion releases do not differ in any substantial way, not even in their characterization of legislation?

CRG: No. During the early years of the Conservation News Service we had some trouble with the editor projecting his own opinion of bills, as I mentioned earlier. But that was soon resolved. The Legislative News Service today gives a forthright account of the bills introduced and the actions taken on them. Of course, the same is true of the Federation's release, both are run from the same stencils.

Natural Resources Council of America Annual Meeting, Audubon Camp, Sarona, Wisconsin, October 7 and 8, 1957. Pictured from left to right, 1. Joseph J. Hickey, Nature Conservancy; 2. Lee M. Talbot, Wildlife Society; 3. Mrs. Joseph Hickey; 4. Fred M. Packard, National Parks Association; 5. Joseph W. Penfold, Izaak Walton League of America; 6. Roger D. Hale, Conservation Foundation; 7. Frank Gregg, Izaak Walton League of America; 8. Mrs. Frank Gregg; 9. David Brower, Sierra Club; 10. C.R. Gutermuth, Wildlife Management Institute; 11. Miss Hickey; 12. John H. Baker, National Audubon Society; 13. Carl O. Gustafson, Council of Conservationists; 14. Bess Gutermuth; 15. Ernest Swift, National Wildlife Federation; 16. Harlean James, American Planning and Civic Association; 17. Fred E. Hornaday, American Forestry Association; 18. I.O. Hembre, Soil Conservation Society; 19. Harry E. Radcliffe, American Nature Association; 20. Annie Shoemaker; 21. Thomas H. Langlois, American Fisheries Society; 22. Annie Clair Hornaday; 23. Mrs. T.H. Langlois; 24. Dave W. Buchheister, National Audubon Society; 25. Carl D. Shoemaker, National Wildlife Federation; 26. Charles H. Callison, National Wildlife Federation; 27. Sigurd F. Olson, National Parks Association; 28. Howard C. Zahniser, Wilderness Society.



Let me record another bit of interesting history about the Conservation News Service. In the annual meeting of the NRCA at the Audubon Camp near Sarona, Wisconsin on October 7 and 8, 1957, I resigned as secretary and was replaced by Joseph W. Penfold, and a highly significant development took place. The then executive director of the National Wildlife Federation, Ernest F. Swift, in one of his many efforts to control or restrict the latitude of Carl D. Shoemaker, appeared and requested that the Council henceforth negotiate directly with the NWF for the Conservation News Service instead of through Carl, who had been editing the releases for little or nothing for a decade. There was no secret about it, Ernie had been trying to hog-tie Carl for a long time and here was one way of doing it. The NRCA was obliged to acquiesce, and this afforded an opportunity for me to come to the rescue. I recommended that the Council employ Shoemaker as a consultant on a modest stipend to start a second and entirely new Executive News Service, that we had been talking about for a long time. This proposal was approved, and at the same time the name of the original Conservation News Service was changed to Legislative News Service. The Federation still puts out the latter for the NRCA, much to the credit of both organizations.

Scientific societies in the NRCA

ERM: I suppose you might say that from the beginning, and perhaps during the whole period since, there have been different purposes for different member organizations of the Council. Some are scholarly, scientific societies, such as the limnologists and the oceanographers.

CRG: That side of the Council needs to be dealt with separately. In our discussion up till now, no mention has been made of the other prime purpose of the NRCA, which was to create a scientific arm that is needed, but has never functioned satisfactorily even though we have tried for years to make it work.

You mentioned that in reading the minutes of the Mammoth Cave meeting it became clear that the idea of getting together in a forum was for the discussion of subjects of importance to the member organizations. All of them have, however, religiously stayed away

from any action in the name of the Council. The members meet, discuss major issues and problems, and then go their separate ways and take their own separate actions. I do not know of a single case where the Council has taken legislative action in its own name.

One of the main reasons for bringing the scientific societies into membership in the Council was because we had as an original concept, the idea that those associations, through their members across the country, could provide the so-called action organizations the technical information they need to take more intelligent action. This was our main purpose. In the beginning, we had a Science Service Committee, and even financed it in the days when Dr. Paul B. Sears served as chairman. At its annual meeting held in Greenwich, Connecticut in 1948, we appropriated money to Dr. Sears to get some of the scientific work going on a couple of critical issues. Nothing much came from that and I must confess that this phase of the Council program never has worked too well, except in a few special cases.

ERM: Why didn't it work?

CRG: For the simple reason that we never were able to get the scientific societies to pin their membership down to doing the kind of work we wanted. I suppose the main reason was the lack of funds. It is one thing to ask a scientist to write a profound report or thesis on a major problem, and another thing to get him to do it. While he may be loyal to his professional society, getting that kind of work done for others is something else.

Alfred C. Redfield

ERM: Dr. Alfred C. Redfield up in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, was your first chairman, elected at the Mammoth Cave meeting. I asked him earlier this week what role the professional societies had in the NRCA.* He told me they were advised to gather the names of resource people in their societies from all different parts of the country and make a list of names and addresses available to all members of the Council, so that if a question came up that required expert advice on a given subject, the Council could repair to those individuals living close to them and get reliable,

* Alfred C. Redfield and Elwood R. Maunder, typed transcript of tape-recorded interview in July 1973, Forest History Society, Santa Cruz, California. In process.

scholarly scientific information. Such a list was made available, and a couple of years later in checking back with these people, Dr. Redfield found that not once had any one of them been called upon for such information. This was rather discouraging to the scientific group and provoked some of the scientific societies at one point to withdraw membership in the Council, because they felt that their advice was really not seriously in demand. Would you have any response to that?

CRG: That quite obviously is Dr. Redfield's own personal view of this. He was active in the beginning, but discontinued his participation after a few years.

I do not disagree with Dr. Redfield, but as I understand from you, he indicated that we were interested in getting a list of the members of the scientific societies so that those names would be available to the other organizations, and it occurs to me that there would have been real objection to that. I understood this a little differently. My concept was that we would try, whenever we had a major issue where additional information was needed to better guide the action organizations, to ask the heads of the scientific societies to scan their membership in the area involved and see whether they had any members who were knowledgeable on the particular subject. What we wanted was to have the scientific societies get some of their members to conduct a study of the problem, and make a comprehensive report to the Council for distribution to its member organizations.

Rampart Dam Project, 1960s

CRG: We did succeed in one extremely important project. It was a Corps of Engineers dream, supported by the politicians and commercial interests in Alaska, that the federal government build a huge dam in the Yukon River near Rampart, north of the Arctic Circle. That gigantic structure would have created a lake larger than Lake Erie. That was about ten years ago, in the sixties. Much if not all of the land that would have been inundated is in the permafrost area, and in some places in the Arctic the permafrost goes down at least fourteen hundred feet.

I and some other individuals connected with the Council got together with a few of the officers and members of the Boone and Crockett Club in New York City and decided that if we were going to get the Rampart Dam Project evaluated properly it would have to

be done by an outside group of practical scientists that had the knowledge and ability to conduct a comprehensive overall field study. It was understood that if the study proved that the plan would be good for Alaska and the nation, the majority of member organizations would support it, and if it was found to be ill advised and highly detrimental, it would be opposed vigorously.

We raised thirty-five thousand dollars from the constituent members of the Council and others, and got the University of Michigan to put together a study team under Dr. Stephen Spurr to go to Alaska and make a complete study of the proposal. The team came back and prepared a detailed report of its findings and recommendations.* The report was published and made available to the members, and there was widespread public opposition to the plan, which resulted in the overwhelming defeat of the project.

Now then, this depicts the other side of the Council program that we visualized in the beginning and that you and I have been discussing. One side is a forum, a place to better inform ourselves on legislative matters and other mutual interests, discuss all problems, and then determine individually what action each wishes to take, since the Council takes no action in its own name. The other side has been from the start to create a system whereby we could get the scientific bodies of this country to conduct studies like the Rampart Dam one and make the information available to the Council members, so that each could use the true facts in the way it sees fit.

ERM: You say this is a clear example of how the Council has served the function of drawing upon the scientific community for objective analysis of various programs?

CRG: If you look at the minutes of the Mammoth Cave meeting and subsequent minutes, maybe they will not spell this out as clearly as they should.

News services

CRG: I would like to reiterate, however, that this was one of the two major functions of the Council. One was to create a forum for the discussion of major issues, and the other was to better inform the member organizations on important matters. We have talked a lot about the original Conservation News Service and its successor,

*Stephen H. Spurr, Ernest F. Brater, et al, Rampart Dam and the Economic Development of Alaska: Summary Report, (Ann Arbor, Mich.: University of Michigan School of Natural Resources, 1966).

the Legislative News Service, both of which have been confined to the actions of the Congress. Their periodic reports have been excellent and have kept the member organizations well-informed and up-to-date. The other much newer Executive News Service that I induced Carl Shoemaker to start, reports on actions of the executive branch of the government in which we are interested. It has not been nearly as effective or efficient as the legislative one. The reason for this is, I presume, because the latter is based on the printed daily account in the Congressional Record.

In the executive branch there are exceedingly large departments like Interior, with its many ramifications, and Agriculture with its many agencies. It is a much more difficult and complex job to try to keep tabs on what is happening in the executive branch, but a real effort is being made now by a small staff of editors that are paid on a part-time basis by the NRCA. The way the reports currently are done depends upon the individual editor that is handling that particular phase of the work.

Scientific societies participation

- ERM: In stating these things you have indicated what benefits you felt would be derived from a league of conservation organizations. Do you believe all the founders of the Council had the same vision of what functions the NRCA would carry out?
- CRG: No. Because the thing that motivated the original meeting at Mammoth Cave was quite obviously that a number of the people really felt that a super organization was needed. They thought that there was a lot of duplication of effort in having so many different associations, and it took considerable explaining to convince them that the situation was not as bad as they surmised.
- ERM: How does the history of the Council in the fifties and sixties reveal that the founders had different concepts of what the Council was to be? There was a defection in the early fifties. Some constituent members dropped out, and these were mainly scientific groups.*
- CRG: The dropping out of the scientific societies at that time was perhaps the result of an actual shortcoming in the Council program, as well as in the member organizations. A Council can be only as

*NRCA, Minutes, Annual Meeting, 4 March 1960, Dallas, Texas. NRCA Papers, Box 7, Forest History Society.

good as its affiliates make it. As John F. Kennedy said, ". . . ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." What makes a good council is the input by the representatives of the member organizations.

All of the so-called action organizations which compose the NRCA have, without exception, staffs of full-time employees and salaried officers. They have expense accounts and a continuing program. They take part in Council affairs as active participants. But, the officers of most of the scientific societies change annually or biennially, and there is not the same kind of continuity. We have had some active scientific delegates back over the years, however. The Ecological Society's first delegate, for example, was Dr. Redfield, who was the first chairman of the NRCA. He was active a few years and was then replaced by one of the most steady participants of all, Dr. Thomas H. Langlois of Ohio, who was the delegate of the American Society of Limnologists.

Now then, when a member society appoints a delegate to the Council who can get to the meetings and take an active part, that society is well represented. Most such delegates have had to pay their own expenses, however, unless their employers took care of them. Dr. Langlois was with Ohio State University at its research station on Bass Island in Lake Erie, and he had a travel allowance.

ERM: This puts the professional representatives at some disadvantage, does it not?

CRG: Quite a disadvantage. In fact, in most of the societies, if the delegate was active, he probably was there at his own expense. The minute that particular person loses interest, you have no input from the society itself. That has been the trouble with many of the members; they appoint a delegate and he is only as good as his volunteer ability to serve. If he is not an active contributor on his own initiative, then the representation of that member society is poor.

ERM: Dr. Langlois was different in that respect. He attended regularly.

CRG: Yes. He seldom missed a meeting. Mrs. Langlois also was a professional person. She had a doctor's degree, came regularly, and contributed a great deal to the discussions.

ERM: They were both very vocal members, I take it.

CRG: They always were ready to take part. Some of the other societies were represented over the years by people who did not come to the meetings and would not do anything if they did come. All in all, I am willing to admit that for the most part the scientific cooperation that we tried to create and promote from the start of the Council never became very satisfactory. Dr. Paul B. Sears served as the chairman of the so-called Science Service Committee for awhile, but I do not think he ever got any worthwhile studies initiated. The Council appropriated a little money to his committee to help launch a couple of projects when it met at the Audubon Nature Center near Greenwich, Connecticut on October 4 and 5, 1948, and no reports were forthcoming. Try as we did, and with other chairmen later, it never worked out. In the few cases where it did, and I can recall only Rampart Dam, we got going simply because we were able to raise thirty-five thousand dollars to get the job done.

Controversy of the fifties and sixties and Thomas H. Langlois

ERM: In 1963 was there not some flurry in which Dr. Langlois took a leading part? * He argued rather strongly that the Council was more interested in action than it was in research and that a disproportionate amount of its resources were put to that purpose rather than into stimulating basic research. It resulted in a flurry and departure from the group.

CRG: I know what you are referring to, but I do not think it resulted that way. Dr. Langlois and a couple of others were complaining about our failure to secure federal funds for some additional research that they wanted. The NRCA never had any resources--its dues income has always been ridiculously low. The little money that was raised went for the news service. Later, Henry Clepper stimulated the writing of a number of books, all of which became very popular,

*Thomas H. Langlois to J. W. Penfold, 8 February 1963, NRCA Papers, Box 7, Forest History Society. For a copy of this correspondence, see Appendix C, pp. 141-43.

and the royalties went to the Council, but the NRCA never had enough money to argue about. *

What concerned Tom Langlois and some of the others most was the scientific shortcoming that I mentioned. The action organizations, which were predominant in the Council, had permanent staffs and operating funds. They have had the wherewithal to do things, and they are doing them in their own behalf. Their input into the Council has been due to the fact that they have full-time people in active participation. On the scientific side of it, they do not, and that lack of representation and continuity is what has caused trouble. The money the societies have is needed to carry on their own work, and they too usually have been more interested in promoting the affairs of their organization than those of the Council. Therefore, the idea of trying to get others to help refine member programs never materialized.

The loss of Council members at that time, and always as far as that goes, came entirely as a result of such things. That is, the scientific delegates to the Council have all too often been on their own. There were a few exceptions where scientific societies delegated somebody to the Council and then said, "We will fund you to go to the meetings and participate," but I believe that such cases have been rare indeed.

ERM: In 1954, Henry Clepper, Carl Shoemaker, and Howard Zahniser formed a special committee to study the role of the NRCA. ** Do you recall that? Their conclusion was that the Council was not then successfully serving as the conservationists' instrument of cooperation and they cited as evidence the formation of several groups such as the Emergency Committee on Natural Resources and the Council of Conservationists, which were formed to provide the needed "media of cooperation." Did you at that time agree or disagree with that conclusion?

*Henry Clepper, ed., Careers in Conservation, 1963; Origins of American Conservation, 1966; Leaders of American Conservation, 1971; Charles H. Callison, ed., America's Natural Resources, 1957 (New York: The Ronald Press Company).

**Henry Clepper, Carl Shoemaker, and Howard Zahniser, "Report Submitted to NRCA Special Meeting," Washington, D.C., 5 December 1954. NRCA Papers, Box 3, Forest History Society.

CRG: I never have changed my mind about the Council's role. My attitude was in disagreement, and it is the same today. I was an active participant in all of the organizations that you mentioned.

Emergency Committee on Natural Resources

CRG: I was the voluntary secretary of the Emergency Committee on Natural Resources.

ERM: Were you also on the Council of Conservationists?

CRG: No, that was a California outfit. A number of such organizations have come and gone over the years. There have been several of them. The NRCA is and always has been a forum or clearinghouse type of organization designed to better inform its member affiliates. It is not an action organization. This has been disappointing to some people. There still are those who want to see more legislative action by the Council.

We have had a few people pull away from the Council because it has not been active enough to satisfy them. A typical example is Anthony Wayne Smith, the president and counsel of the National Parks and Conservation Association. Tony is an action person, but at the same time he shies away from legislative and political activity in his own organization because it dare not under its tax-exemption status engage in lobbying. Nevertheless, from the first day that I met him, he has been an action fellow. He was one of us who started the Emergency Committee on Natural Resources. The idea was to get some of the more prominent conservationists to become more active in legislative affairs, since the NRCA could not do it. Inasmuch as the Council could not get into the fray, some of us always were looking for ways to do what needed to be done, and that accounts for those other new organizations that were motivated for action purposes.

ERM: It is rather interesting that as a part of that same meeting, which occurred in December 1954, David Brower is represented as having said: ". . . the NRCA seems to many to have missed an opportunity." *

*NRCA, "Minutes of Special Meeting," 5 December 1954, Washington, D.C., NRCA Papers, Box 3, Forest History Society.

I presume from this that he was stating a hope that the Council would be more of an activist group. Is that right?

CRG: Yes, that is what has brought about a great deal of dissatisfaction and discussion by a few members. You take the Emergency Committee on Natural Resources; a good many of us who were active in it were theoretically representing other organizations, though not officially. All members were listed in some capacity as representing another association, when in reality that other association did not actually know that it was being so represented.

For example, Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, the world renown soil conservationist, had retired at that time. He was listed by the Emergency Committee, but not officially, as representing the Soil Conservation Society of America. Of course, it would have been pretty hard for the Society to disavow the distinguished Dr. Bennett, but still the Emergency Committee was engaged completely in legislative activities. To have "Big Hugh" listed as representing the Soil Conservation Society of America was most improper.

The same thing could be said of Dr. Clarence Cottam, who was listed as representing the Wildlife Society, and, of course, not officially. Dr. Cottam was at that time the assistant director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is now the director of the Welder Wildlife Foundation in Sinton, Texas. Nevertheless, he had been president of the Wildlife Society, and the Emergency Committee had him listed as representing the Society, rather than showing his governmental position.

There was no doubt that the Society did not know the Committee had it appearing as an affiliate in its legislative activities. Anthony Wayne Smith was listed as a representative of the CIO [Congress of Industrial Organizations], and I was shown as the secretary of the North American Wildlife Foundation.

When we formed the Emergency Committee, we wanted to list a goodly number of big names for prestige purposes, and various prominent persons were asked to join and serve. At the time they became members, we took the liberty of identifying them with important organizations. There was no problem until we alienated a number of members of Congress with our successful blocking of important pieces of their legislation, and they began to investigate our exceedingly effective small organization. It was not registered as a lobbying organization and was in jeopardy.

ERM: What pieces of legislation do you refer to?

CRG: I could not enumerate any of them now, but, as an example, the defeat of the ill-advised Ellsworth Timberland Exchange Bill would be one. * At that time, the Emergency Committee was most effective, and when a couple of congressmen began to demand that we register in compliance with the Lobbying Act, we were in trouble. ** Had the Emergency Committee done that, it would have reflected all of the members and the organizations they appeared to be representing as having been involved in lobbying. As the secretary, I was vigorously opposed to registering, since we had no right to involve any of those other organizations as having any direct connection with the Emergency Committee. None of them could engage in lobbying because of their tax-exemption status, and therefore, I insisted that we dissolve the Emergency Committee, which went out of business summarily.

ERM: You've had to wear many hats.

CRG: I would sound like Major Hoople if I enumerated all of the various organizations with which I have actively associated over the years.

ERM: Doesn't it cause some discomfort up on the Hill when the prime movers in various action groups, such as the Emergency Committee, are also the prime movers in nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations? Is there difficulty in drawing the line?

CRG: I do not think so. You and I as citizens have the right to petition the Congress and express ourselves on all major issues, and it is pretty hard for them to distinguish our affiliation. I have been exceedingly active over the years in at least twenty different national organizations, and I am the only one that can rightfully distinguish what hat I am wearing at any one time. The important thing is that I never have engaged in any kind of legislative measure that pertained to a private interest. I have been functioning in the broad public interest at all times. There is a lot of difference between being up on the Hill in Congress representing the milk producers, for instance, trying to get the price of milk increased for their benefit, than there is in trying to get a wilderness area

*Timberland Exchange Bill of 1953, HR 4646, 83rd Cong.

**Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act of 2 August 1946, 60 Stat 839.

established in the public interest, or in getting a threatened and endangered species of wildlife protected and given a suitable habitat, or in getting a national park established, or in protecting an estuarine area to preserve the production of aquatic life. These are the subjects that I have been concerned with, not legislation that would benefit you and me as individuals.

ERM: Do you think that preservationists ever get over into the area of being representatives not of the commonweal but the interest of a small group whose special concern or cause is of primary importance only to itself?

CRG: I suppose I should comment on the ultra-preservationists side first.

ERM: I think your identification of the spectrum here would be very helpful.

CRG: In the first place, I believe we have been tremendously successful in wildlife management and pollution control in this country. Maybe not so much yet in environmental controls, but that is coming rapidly now. The United States leads the world in the creation of not only the first national park, but in the establishment of innumerable parks and wildlife refuges for the better management of our renewable wildlife resources. We have done an historic and unprecedented job in our field, and I take some pride myself in having contributed my bit toward this extremely successful natural resources program.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND: ENDANGERED SPECIES

CRG: Twelve years ago, I and a few others in this country in cooperation with associates abroad organized the World Wildlife Fund. I drafted the bylaws of the WWF in the United States and secured tax-exemption status for it. I served as the voluntary secretary for the first three years and as its treasurer the next seven years. I then served as its president for a couple of years, and now that I am retired, the board elected me honorary president for life. The whole program was designed to help protect threatened and endangered species of fauna and flora around the world. The entire program has been highly successful. We have been raising a million and a quarter dollars a year in the United States and have already expended over ten million dollars for wildlife conservation throughout the world.

There now are separate WWF affiliates in twenty-three countries around the world. We have a large program going to preserve the tiger; we are trying to establish at least twelve sanctuaries in India, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The general public has responded marvelously. We are going to raise a million dollars for the tiger project alone. The WWF has the cooperation of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and the program has aroused widespread public interest around the globe. I believe that the tiger and spotted cat programs and the great impetus that the WWF has put into international wildlife work have brought into the conservation movement more people from all walks of life than ever before.

There is another side to it, however, that is not so inspiring. Endangered wildlife and mounting environmental problems have set the stage for a few enterprising individuals to take advantage of an old American adage, "If you want to make a place for yourself, form a new organization." We have had a number of anti-wildlife-management and anti-hunting organizations spring up in this country. Some are headed by dedicated and conscientious people, but in all too many cases, by glamour seeking, melodramatic individuals who are not well-informed biologically and ecologically, and know very little about the wildlife or environmental problems and programs with which we are dealing. In many cases, the new groups have gone overboard to the point of where, now instead of common sense and scientific knowledge guiding our actions, we are being led by a bunch of crackpots that are more interested in

raising money to keep going, and in making names for themselves, than they are in the welfare of the resources.

Fur seals and the Pelagic Treaty, 1911*

CRG: We have had some ultra-preservation bills introduced in the Congress recently that would have completely upset the fur seal management program in the Pribilof Islands of Alaska that actually constitutes one of the most successful conservation restoration programs of all time. The majority of people in this country and around the world, and the instigators of the above bills, obviously do not know that there is a vast difference between a fur seal and a hair seal. The general public has witnessed the killing of hair seals on the Canadian islands near the mouth of the St. Lawrence River in highly dramatized television films. People believe the same is happening to the more valuable fur seals that are well-protected on the Pribilof Islands. Misleading TV documentary films have caused the viewers to rise up in horror when such killing is depicted, and they have associated it with the fur seals of the North Pacific without knowing that they are managed under an international treaty.

Perhaps I should outline the fur seal program. In the first place, in 1911 the fur seals of the North Pacific were being killed in the open sea, and many of the carcasses were not recovered. The total population was down to around one hundred and fifty thousand animals. There were few, if any, controls. The harvest was engaged in by several countries, and in 1911 the sportsmen conservationists of the United States, those who were utilizing our other kinds of wildlife resources, the people who were putting up all of the money for fish and game management in this country, demanded that the fur seals be protected. The record shows that it was the sportsmen that brought about the Pelagic Treaty of 1911.

ERM: Were they trying to preserve a resource which was in any way basic to their sport interests?

* Pelagic Sealing Act of 1911, 37 Stat 502.

CRG: No. The fur seals never were taken by sportsmen. I do not know of a single sports hunter that ever was interested in pursuing these marine mammals.

Sportsmen's interest

CRG: Today we hear a lot of clamor and chatter about our marine mammals. Recently the Congress enacted a law protecting them. With the exception of the polar bear and possibly an occasional walrus, no sportsman ever has been interested in hunting any of the other marine mammals. They are not sporting animals and are not the kind that are sought by those whom you and I regard as sportsmen. Practically all of the marine mammals have been taken by people who are interested primarily in the commercialization of those resources.

I wish to reiterate that history records that the first people to advocate the protection of wildlife are the sportsmen. This was true again in the case of the polar bear. The National Rifle Association of America passed a resolution calling for greater protection for these giant nomads of the floe-ice in June 1966 and carried an editorial in the July issue of the American Rifleman in support of earlier efforts by Alaskan sportsmen to curtail hunting with aircraft.* Many illustrations could be given, going back to Colonial days, showing how the sportsmen have been in the forefront asking for sound, sensible management which includes adequate protection of our wildlife resources.

When I went to work in the Indiana Department of Conservation and became the director of fish and game, one of my biggest problems was to keep the sportsmen from forcing me to overprotect the resources. The minute that a species became difficult to find at all times, the first thing the sportsmen wanted to do was close the season. More often than not, prohibiting all hunting is not a necessary part of management. Under a sound biological management

*Editorial, American Rifleman 114, no. 7 (July 1966): 16.

program for most wildlife species, it usually takes only the right amount of food and cover to preserve and increase the population. The mere reducing of the season and bag limit may not in itself accomplish the desired results. It requires something more than that, and nothing less than proper habitat.

Prairie chicken

CRG: The minute that you lose the so-called public interest in a species of wildlife, that particular creature is in jeopardy. For example, thirty years ago in the northwest corner of Indiana, we had a small population of prairie chickens. When I was in the Division of Fish and Game, we had a short open season on the chickens, and there was great interest in them. During severe winter weather, the sportsmen went out and fed them. Everyone was tremendously interested in preserving that small remnant of fascinating game bird.

After I resigned as director of Fish and Game and moved to Washington, one of my successors decided that the Department should give the chickens greater protection, and they closed the season completely. That obviously served notice to some people that the end of the prairie chicken was near, and sportsmen and bird lovers alike decided to get a mounted specimen for their den or mantle, and the prairie chicken population in Indiana went down and down. Today I am inclined to think that the birds are all gone. People obviously went out to get at least one chicken while the getting was still possible.

More encouragingly though, when we in the World Wildlife Fund saw that the Attwater's prairie chicken was in serious trouble in Texas, we went down there with private funds raised in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy and bought thirty-five hundred acres of prime habitat near Eagle Lake. We now have an Attwater's Prairie Chicken Preserve that soon will become a national wildlife refuge. It already is being managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under a lease-purchase agreement.

It is unlikely that this sort of solution could have been achieved in northwestern Indiana where that other larger prairie chicken was

living, because that is the best agricultural land in the state. In other words, you never could afford to set it aside as a prairie chicken sanctuary.

ERM: Was it open land?

CRG: It is flat prairie grassland in private ownership and it is being used under an intensive rotation crop-production program. Now, to go back to what we were discussing, where were we?

Implementation of the Pelagic Treaty

ERM: We were talking about the spectrum of preservationist conservation programs.

CRG: Well, there were bills in the Congress that called for stopping all harvest of the fur seals on the Pribilof Islands and converting them into a recreation area where people could go and see the seals, which they can do now. When the Pelagic Treaty was ratified in 1911, the taking of fur seals on the high seas was stopped completely. The only place that the animals subsequently could be killed was on the Pribilof Islands by the federal government under the treaty approved management program. At first, perhaps I should say, no animals were taken. But when the population began to build up to safe numbers, they started to harvest them. Only three-year-old males were taken by the government. The skins were processed for the government, and under the treaty between Great Britain, Japan, Russia, and the United States, each country could take its share of the furs harvested. They could have either the processed furs, or if they did not want the finished pelts, they were sold at public auction and the proceeds from the sale were divided proportionately among the respective members of the international agreement.

Under that sound, practical program, during the past sixty-two years the population of fur seals has been built up to over one million three hundred thousand animals. The people living on the Pribilof Islands are employees of the federal government, and the seals are being managed in the best way known to the biologists and other technicians. The best method that the government has found to dispatch the animals is with a club in the hands of an

expert. This stuns the animal and knocks it out instantly, and it is then killed. Regardless of what we think, it has been determined by the government that this is the most humane method of killing the fur seals. They have tried every other form of dispatching the animals, and this is the best. Still, it does not satisfy some of the people that are against all killing. This makes me wonder what they eat, and how they think their food is produced.

You know, Mr. Maunder, things are entirely different now than they were a few years ago. There was a time when even the smallest child was accustomed to the killing, butchering and cleaning of animals, both wild and domestic. Now, everything comes all prepared for the table in a cellophane container. Wild animals are no longer game and food, they are merely lovely creatures that would make good pets.

Wildlife management

CRG: More than two hundred million dollars are being spent each year in this country to improve and maintain our renewable wildlife resources, and all that will be stopped if we are not going to continue to permit the harvest of the annual wildlife crop. Then again, who will take care of our wildlife protection and management programs when and if the present steady flow of hunting and fishing license revenue ends?

Some people say that we should let the fur seals and other marine mammals continue to increase. They lose sight of the fact that these are only some of the many species living in the North Pacific in large numbers, and that there is a highly significant interrelation between all living creatures, especially those in competition for limited food and cover. If we provide overprotection to one particular species, it would have a material effect on others.

ERM: The more radical preservationists take the view that man should not impose himself in situations of this kind, that nature will take its own course to keep the ecological balance. The more ardent preservationists will argue against what you have been saying.

CRG: That is right. The trouble is that the average person who has adopted that concept and philosophy has not stopped to think that nothing is quite as cruel and vicious as nature itself. Watch a lion kill a crippled zebra, or watch any one of the large predators disembowel a live animal, and then tell me you would not prefer a more sudden kill.

I wish that more people could see a real deer browse line. See young deer during deep snow storms when all food within their reach has been eaten by the older and taller animals that could stand on their hind legs and reach higher. If only more anti-management advocates could watch the youngsters go through malnutrition, the throes of anguish, starvation, and death. On the other hand, that seems to be what some people want, rather than have a sound, sensible program designed to perpetuate the species under scientific management.

Alligators

CRG: In yesterday's newspaper an inexperienced young biologist with one of the new organizations had a letter to the editor that urged support of the Threatened and Endangered Species Bill being considered by the Congress.* The proposed bill would give the federal government control over certain species of resident wildlife that now are under the supervision and administration of the state agencies. The writer cited two cases in support of his contention that the logical place for the control of our wildlife resources is in the federal government, particularly with regard to endangered species. He disregarded the fact that the states have been administering resident wildlife in this country from time immemorial. One of his reasons was that Louisiana had opened the season on alligators, which had become too numerous in parts of the state, and permitted sixteen hundred animals to be taken. He protested this action because the alligator had been declared endangered under the federal law and he thought that the large surplus should have been live-trapped and shipped elsewhere.

Before the letter was published I would have liked to ask, Who would have paid to trap those alligators, which state? While the alligator may be down in numbers throughout much of its range, it has not been exterminated and there are alligators under proper protection and management in a number of states. There is no

*Threatened and Endangered Species Bill of 1973, S 1592, 93rd Cong.

justification for live-trapping and shipping large numbers of alligators. Their populations can be built up in suitable habitat to whatever numbers are desired. The first question that this young molder of public opinion should have asked is, Who wants the alligators he thinks should be moved to someplace else? The second question he should have asked himself is, Who is going to finance the project? To trap sixteen hundred alligators and ship them would have cost a lot of money. Then the important questions are, For what purpose? Are we interested in preserving untold numbers of alligators, or are we desirous of properly utilizing all forms of our renewable natural resources without waste? It is one thing to have wild creatures to see and to have as nice neighbors, and another thing to have those benefits as well as their utilitarian value.

Wolves and other wildlife

CRG: In his letter, that young chap also cited the wolf situation in Minnesota. Here again he manifested his naiveté. We have few places left in the United States where we have enough habitat to maintain any sizeable wolf population. Even where we do, many of the local people are opposed to giving wolves any additional protection. The answer to this in Minnesota is that any protection at all for the wolf must be provided by the state legislature. It must determine seasons and bag limits and any other restrictions on the taking of wolves. A great many residents do not want any protection given to that large, vicious predator they feel is lurking in their countryside. Because of that public attitude, it has been exceedingly difficult to get the legislatures in most states that have wolves to provide complete protection.

In this case, however, a good biologist, Dr. L. David Mech, with funds furnished by the Boone and Crockett Club, National Rifle Association of America, and World Wildlife Fund, carried on an intensive study on the wolves in northern Minnesota. He recommended that the legislature classify the wolf as a game animal and impose a closed season for about nine months each year. He also advocated that a wolf sanctuary of twenty-four hundred square miles be set aside as a permanent refuge where no wolves could be taken at all. This excellent research proposal was supported by the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and, of course, by Dr. Mech.

A bill containing these provisions was introduced in the state legislature this spring which would have gone all the way from absolutely no protection in Minnesota to game animal classification, about nine months of complete protection, and a twenty-four hundred square mile sanctuary.

What happened? Who blocked the bill in the legislature? The preservationists! If you are interested in seeing which organizations and individuals killed the bill, look at the record. Due to the extreme pressure by the preservationists, the regional director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in Minneapolis was given instructions from headquarters in Washington to withdraw his support of the proposal. That bill was defeated, and the wolf has no legal protection in Minnesota, only because of the preservationists. Maybe I should add that the money for conducting the research by Dr. Mech came from the sportsmen. This kind of thing concerns me tremendously, because, if we are to preserve wildlife just for preservation's sake, we are in serious trouble in this country.

In the emerging countries in Africa I have had considerable involvement. I am on the Executive Council of the International Board of the World Wildlife Fund, and we have been sponsoring a great deal of wildlife work in Africa. Actually, we now have WWF affiliates in twenty-three countries around the world, as I mentioned earlier, and my most profound concern is in East Africa. They are making all of the same wildlife management mistakes over there now that we made here in the United States. What eliminated the great herds of buffalo in this country? It was not the sports hunting but the conversion of the vast open prairies to man's use. Of course, the tremendous slaughter of bison is probably one of the blackest spots in the history of this nation. Records show that the military slaughtered bison by the millions in order to control the food supply of the Indians. If you control the food of an animal, you control the animal.

Despite all that, we have more white-tailed deer in the United States today than we had in pioneer days. In fact, we have more areas where there are deer over-population problems than we have areas where there are no problems.

When I first got started in conservation, the pronghorn antelope was on the verge of extinction. We now have them in abundance and have an open season on them in about eight states where they are taken in considerable numbers. These restoration programs did not

come about by accident or in a short period of time.

Cougar

CRG: Moreover, the sportsmen now have succeeded in getting the cougar or mountain lion classified as a game animal with protection in every state but one and they are working hard on that.

ERM: Which state is that?

CRG: Arizona or Nevada, I have forgotten which.

ERM: Do you think the cougar is in real danger of becoming extinct?

CRG: No. It is not even classified as an endangered species. We have lots of cougars in many parts of the country. In fact, Bruce S. Wright, at the Northeastern Wildlife Station in Fredrickton, New Brunswick (which we in the Wildlife Management Institute started about twenty years ago), has proved conclusively that there still are cougars up there, which he calls the Eastern Panther. Cougars are found in some of the other maritime provinces of Canada where everyone thought the animal was extinct.

ERM: It has disappeared from this part of the country, hasn't it?

CRG: I am not too sure of that. The cougar is a very elusive, nocturnal animal. It can live next to you and you might never know it.

ERM: Except that you'd hear its screams.

CRG: Well, in the Wildlife Management Institute, we published a whole string of authoritative books like The Puma, Mysterious American Cat, and The Wolves of North America, which are classics. Perhaps I also should name a few of the others like The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America; The Deer of North America; The Ring-necked Pheasant and Its Management; The Canvasback on a Prairie Marsh; Birds of Alaska; Prairie Ducks; and Hawks, Owls and Wildlife. * Some have been best sellers in the natural history

*F.H. Kortright, The Ducks, Geese & Swans of North America, 1942; H.A. Hochbaum, The Canvasback on a Prairie Marsh, 1944; S.P. Young & E.A. Goldman, The Wolves of North America, 1944; W.L. McAtee, ed., The Ring-necked Pheasant & Its Management,

field, and they all are award winners.

What got me going on our books was your comment about the cougar screaming. If you read The Puma, Mysterious American Cat, it will convince you that the cougar is not an animal that ordinarily reveals its presence. That screaming that is featured in TV commercials is, in my opinion, greatly exaggerated. We have lots of cougars in many parts of the United States that seldom are ever seen.

I am the president of the World Wildlife Fund in the United States. One of the research grants that we issued recently was to a Dr. Ronald M. Nowak of Kansas State University to conduct a survey of the cougars in Florida. His aim was to determine whether there were animals in sufficient numbers in one locality to conduct a comprehensive study of them. His initial survey did locate enough animals for a large-scale study.

We also had helped finance the cougar study that Dr. Maurice Hornocker of the University of Idaho conducted in the high-mountain timbered areas out there, but the palmetto-type habitat of Florida is quite different. It would be interesting to compare the differences between the cougars found in areas of such variation in food and habitat.

1945; Young & Goldman, The Puma Mysterious American Cat, 1946 (Baltimore, Md.: Monumental Press). L.K. Sowls, Prairie Ducks, 1955; W.P. Taylor, ed., The Deer of North America, 1956; J.J. & F.C. Craighead, Hawks, Owls and Wildlife, 1956; Ira N. Gabrielson & F.C. Lincoln, Birds of Alaska, 1959 (Harrisburg, Pa.: Stackpole Books).

NRCA DUES AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIFTIES

- ERM: We could go on at great length about the wildlife story, but let us return to NRCA history. I'd like you to comment on a few events in that history. In 1955 the bylaws of the Council were changed so as to provide for a classification of membership. Scientific society dues were fixed at fifty dollars. Small action groups were fixed at one hundred dollars, and large action groups at three hundred dollars. Can you give some brief explanation as to why this was done?
- CRG: Let me say first, that I have not been very active in the Council in recent years. The matter of dues has been something that has concerned the officers for many years. As you will see in the original bylaws and from the minutes of the meetings throughout all the years of my service as secretary, payment of dues was not a requirement of membership. My strong belief was that we wanted all of those organizations to be affiliated and take part in the clearinghouse or forum-type activities. The action in 1955 in changing the dues was to try to get all those member organizations that could afford to pay something, to do so. Those that could not afford it, I always contended, should still be permitted to remain members, but that we should strive to get others to pay a little more if they were able. Subsequently, there was another change and the dues were increased still more.
- ERM: Were any of these changes provoked by a period of hardship in financing the basic costs of the Council. Providing its Conservation News Service?
- CRG: As I have said, the Council never has had much money. It has been operating on a shoestring.
- ERM: I presume that, like every other organization, the Council has been influenced by inflationary trends, and that from time to time the rising costs of its operations, however limited in scope, provoke need for larger income from its constituent members.
- CRG: The change you mentioned in 1955 really did not alter things. They actually have not needed a lot of money because their prime function is putting out the Conservation News Service. When we started the Executive News Service in 1957 and changed the name of the

other one to Legislative News Service, it took a bit of additional editorial assistance and supplies, and we needed more money, but that has been accomplished by adding a few members. In recent years they have upped the dues and now have a paid secretary who receives a modest part-time salary.

- ERM: Have any conservation organizations ever applied for membership in the Council and not been accepted?
- CRG: Membership from the beginning has been on an invitational basis. Whenever there has been a suggestion that an organization would be interested in joining, it usually has been invited. There have been only a few who were not invited. Membership is limited to national and regional organizations. There may have been organizations that applied that did not meet the criteria, but I do not remember any in particular that were rejected.
- ERM: State agencies are not eligible.
- CRG: No.
- ERM: Do you recall any member being ousted from the Council?
- CRG: Not except for failure to become interested and possibly for nonpayment of dues. None because of any trouble. I did mention that the National Parks Association pulled out years ago because Anthony Wayne Smith was unhappy, but that was of his own volition, not because of any action taken by the Council.
- ERM: During the 1950s, NRCA seemed to have battled constantly to keep its member organizations, waiving dues and accepting dues payments of any amount. Would you say that is a true impression of those years, or is it distorted?
- CRG: That probably is right, but from the very beginning I always insisted that the payment of dues should not be a requirement. We have had a number of organizations over the years that were not in a position to pay dues. During the years I was secretary, there was one called the Wildflower Preservation Society. It was a small and poorly supported group, but it stood for the things we espoused, so we urged the officers to continue its membership without dues. There are others like that. For a number of years we had the Grassland Research Foundation as an active member. I worked for a decade trying to get a grassland monument established out on the great plains and am still plugging away. I wanted to set

aside a typical example of what the pioneers experienced when they made their long treks west; what the Mormons went through when they walked through the tall grass prairies with their push-carts. Such a monument should be established as a part of Americana. I do not think there have been many members that have not paid dues.

ERM: During the early 1950s serious consideration was given to the question of expanding the NRCA membership to include groups not directly conservationists, such as civic groups and womens groups. Do you remember supporting or being opposed to this?

CRG: I always have insisted that they should at least have a conservation committee or some real manifestation of conservation interest. Trying to drag in a bunch of organizations that were way afield from our interests certainly did not help us. I have contended that if we were going to invite the Garden Clubs of America, for example, we first should make sure that it had a conservation committee that would take an interest in the things we were endeavoring to accomplish.

ERM: Wasn't it Fred Packard who argued most strongly on behalf of this expansion of the membership?

CRG: He may have, but Fred has not been active in the Council for many years. I believe that there were a number of people who felt that whenever we could enroll a powerful organization that would take an interest, we should do it. I do not know of any one person in particular that supported this view.

RESOURCE DEVELOPERS VS. RESOURCE PRESERVATIONISTS

ERM: At the annual meeting in 1960, Dr. Edward H. Graham expressed the opinion the NRCA had not retained the participation of resource developer type organizations as opposed to resource preservation type organizations. * He said that this may well result in the failure of the Council to include in its discussions subjects of interest to such organizations. There was considerable discussion in which there seemed a concensus that the NRCA needed the participation of the developer groups for exchange of information, attitude, points of view, et cetera. Did you agree with that concensus?

CRG: Dr. Graham was one of the truly outstanding conservationists that I have known during my lifetime. He was a person with a keen mind and an extraordinary perception; a very astute individual. Whenever he came forth with an idea, I found myself almost invariably in support of his views. This was a profound question of where should the Council be going, and what should be its activities? I always have felt that the NRCA should confine its activities to those people and those organizations that are interested in conservation and the better management of our natural resources in the broad public interest, as opposed to the exploitation and commercial utilization of the resources. If we are going to serve our prime function as conservationists, we must restrict our activities along the lines of our stated objectives, which in my case has been the better management of our wildlife and other natural resources, giving adequate consideration to their protection and proper use. How can we do it differently? If the Council is going to bring into the fold those organizations whose future is dependent upon the use of the resources, then the membership is bound to be in conflict. I contend that the NRCA has an obligation and a tough job trying to hold the line on the proper use of our natural resources.

We conservationists need a place to talk among ourselves on how we can do our job better, rather than be obliged to discuss our

*NRCA, Minutes, Annual Meeting, 4 March 1960, Dallas, Texas. NRCA Papers, Box 7, Forest History Society.

position and strategy with our opponents. I am not sure that Dr. Graham had this same concern, because we both were active in many fields. I helped to organize the National Watershed Congress twenty years ago, for example. Our objective was to help implement Public Law 566 for the better development of the small watersheds in this country, and we succeeded quite well. * But when we get ourselves involved with the utilization agencies and organizations, we sometimes find we are leaning in both directions.

ERM: Do you see certain resource developers as being true conservationists, or not?

CRG: I think that the majority of big companies are reliable for the most part; their whole future welfare and existence is dependent upon a prosperous America. I believe that the large corporations have just as much interest in the future of this country as anyone else. We dare not generalize, however. Take the big oil or timber companies, for example. Weyerhaeuser, Crown-Zellerbach, Georgia Pacific; nobody can convince me that the top officials in those large outfits are not interested in the welfare of this country. The people in charge of those extensive timber programs have a tough job. They have to grow and cut trees and produce a continuing program. They must make money for their stockholders. To have a good program means they must look to the future. Many of them have done this by buying and planting land. I believe that most of the private lands of the big timber companies are under as good or better management than some of our national forest lands. I say this because whenever those private companies are progressive, they are willing to put back into their business what it takes to perpetuate their operations. Whereas, in the national forests they are dependent upon the appropriations they can get from the Congress. Quite often, this is not as good, and is not sufficient. Sometimes federal operating funds are not as steady as they are in a big company like Weyerhaeuser, which makes the necessary appropriations year after year. With Congress, in some years, the national forests do not receive enough money to do the job. Some of our best forestry programs in this country have been carried on by those rugged, pioneer-type individuals that frequently are referred to as "timber barons." The capitalistic system is what made this country great; there is no question about that.

*The Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, PL 566, 68 Stat 666.

I started to use the big oil companies as an example because I think that some of our most sincere and conscientious conservationists are in that industry. They certainly are not maliciously raping the resources like some folks are saying. Surely, they, too, want to make good reports to their stockholders and show a profit. At the same time they must look ahead for their companies. Those astute and enterprising corporate officers must remember that, like Weyerhaeuser and the others, they will be here for a long time. So, when people say there is a tremendous rape of our resources going on, this is not always true.

ERM: Do I gather from what you say that some of the people in certain conservation groups have maligned people in industry?

CRG: Yes, I think that some of the conservation organizations have twisted and exaggerated facts and circumstances in many cases in order to serve their own purpose and feather their own nests. Some of them have made dramatic charges against commercial interests that would be hard for them to substantiate. Maybe this is to be expected when certain kinds of organizations are striving to secure members and raise funds. Some forms of fund-raising are dependent entirely upon glamorous and spectacular appeals. The more they can dramatize the urgent need for help, the more chance of securing public interest and support. It is clear that many organizations are motivated along these lines.

Then again, the personality phase of it enters the picture. There was a time in the 1940s and 1950s when we had almost complete and thorough cooperation among the conservation organizations. We had little, if any, lone-wolf forms of activity. The meetings of the Council were held quite often, and the member participation was good. The relationship between the different member organizations was excellent. While you never can expect to reconcile and resolve the differences of all of the members like the National Audubon Society as compared to the National Wildlife Federation because of their varying views, we did have almost perfect teamwork. The close relationship and the cooperation and coordination in the various programs and activities was ideal, especially in the early days of the NRCA.

In recent years we are witnessing a deplorable pulling away by some organizations, led primarily by self-serving individuals. I find that in the last few years there has been more of an inclination on the part of a small number of organizations to pull off alone and try to elevate themselves rather than the overall program.

ERM: Isn't this likely to have a disastrous effect on the conservation movement?

CRG: It certainly is having a serious effect. After a few such go-it-alone incidents, you get to the point where there is no cooperation and coordination. Leaders say to themselves, "To hell with him. He did not go along with me on that other issue, so why should I go along with him now?" This sort of attitude dare not prevail for long before the whole coordinated program tends to break down. I think it is most unfortunate.

Alaska oil pipeline

CRG: Several of the better-known conservation leaders are gradually becoming loners. This is being seen in a number of ways, particularly on some of the publicity-oriented issues. Right now the Alaska pipeline, a major issue that has been in the forefront for two or three years, is a good case in point. We have had meeting after meeting in many places during the past couple of years trying to achieve unanimity among the conservation organizations. Meetings were scheduled in the Department of the Interior, with committees of the Senate and House, with the NRCA, and elsewhere. We had sessions with the heads of some of the large oil companies and a whole string of conservation organizations. Representatives of most of the larger Council members like the American Forestry Association, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, North American Wildlife Foundation, Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, Wildlife Society, and the Wildlife Management Institute went to Alaska with the heads of the big oil companies to inspect the facilities at Prudhoe Bay and to travel the full length of the pipeline route. All this was done to help enlighten the conservation leaders on what the real problems are and possible ways to solve them. It is one thing as the head of a large conservation organization to be knowledgeable on routine matters, quite another to have some understanding of pipeline construction hazards. I have made many trips to Alaska, and there are very few parts of the state that I have not seen. Even so, problems confronting the oil line installation are something to behold.

There are many critical handicaps to be surmounted, and it was felt that the best way to satisfy the conservationists was to get them up there to take a look and discuss the problems. The report of the exceedingly comprehensive studies that have been conducted of the pipeline route consists of a stack of books six feet high. Every conceivable kind of study and investigation that can be imagined has been done. The oil companies themselves have spent millions of dollars conducting studies, buying pipe, getting equipment up there, and in drilling. Their investment is enormous; it has been all outgo and no income for years.

Nevertheless, all construction has been brought to a halt. Three organizations--the Environmental Defense Fund, Friends of Wildlife, and the Wilderness Society--have taken the case to court and obtained an injunction that blocks all efforts to build the pipeline. This injunction has been permitted to prevail for all too long, in my opinion, with no suggested alternatives. It was recommended that they should explore a much longer Canadian route that would bring the line into the middle of the United States, but that proposal never has been developed. In sum, the Alaska pipeline has been stopped, period.

Three small organizations blocked the project, and it has made little difference how all of the larger conservation organizations have felt about the matter. The total membership of those three organizations, I would guess, does not exceed a hundred thousand people, and, under our system, they were able to act alone. Millions and millions of dollars are involved, and trillions of barrels of much-needed oil. The Congress, in the midst of this critical energy crisis, better provide some remedial action.

I do not profess to know the answer. The pipeline would cross fewer rivers on the Alaskan route than it would through Canada and it would be much shorter and cheaper. The Alaskan route comes down through a great earthquake fault area, which could be serious, but efficient safeguards can be employed. Not enough has been said about the risks involved after the oil reaches Valdez, for the large tankers will have to go out into the ocean. They cannot go down the Inland Passage because of the size of the boats. The fog-bound inlet of Prince William Sound presents another real hazard.

ERM: Possible oil spills?

CRG: Yes. Anything that they do in the transport of oil presents some risks.

ERM: There is a great regional struggle here, is there not? A struggle between midwesterners who say, "There is far greater need for that oil in the Midwest than there is on the West Coast."

CRG: This might be a regional thing on the part of some uniformed people, but it really is a national and possibly an international problem. The majority of people who are making all those rash statements on all sides of the issue do not have the whole story. With all of the restrictions and safeguards that have been included in the pipeline order, I believe that the large oil companies will be able to bring that North Slope oil out with a minimum of damage. They have done a good job on the whole. I have attended all of the American Petroleum Institute and Conservation Liaison Committee meetings, which I helped to initiate about fifteen years ago, and my experience with the heads of the large oil companies is that they are very responsible people.

"FOREST-WILDLIFE IDEOLOGIES", 1949

ERM: For a moment let me be the devil's advocate. In an oral history interview, the interviewer very often must be the devil's advocate as a means of stimulating new lines of discussion. I wonder whether, in the course of the life of a leader in the conservation field, there are changes of attitude on basic issues, and whether or not this wasn't as true in your lifetime as it might be today in the lives of a younger echelon of leaders of conservation organizations. I would offer as evidence that perhaps that is the case in an article that you presented as a paper to the Washington Section of the Society of American Foresters here in Washington on March 24, 1949. It is entitled "Forest-Wildlife Ideologies." In that paper you were speaking to government and industry foresters and you spanked them rather severely and you told them:

There is a lot of talk today about socialism, regimentation, federal controls, state's rights, valley authorities, and other things that stimulate discussion of democratic principles--yet it is clear that if we are to manage the natural resources of this vast nation, we first must learn to manage people. This is not a concept, it is a fundamental law of community existence. Those who do not discipline themselves have to be managed for their own good.*

Pink, I submit that what you were saying in 1949 is somewhat different than your point of view today.

CRG: No, I do not think so. I believe that all of those things that were said are pretty much truisms. Surely, we still need controls. Most of our problems are people problems, and that is what I was saying to those professional foresters. I remember that meeting vaguely but have forgotten who it was that talked me into giving that speech. No, I do not think that the situation has changed a

*C. R. Gutermuth, "Forest-Wildlife Ideologies," Journal of Forestry 47 (November 1949): 886-9.

great deal. I do not believe that my views have changed much, except that as you get older perhaps you acquire a little better understanding of basic concepts and problems.

ERM: I think that's true. As you get older you become more aware of the complexity of life. You're not quite as quick to seize upon what seems to be a black-and-white answer to a question. You're not as willing to take up the cudgel and fight until death in the cause. You begin to recognize that it is a lot more complicated than that.

CRG: This is right. As you grow older and as your experience broadens, it broadens your concept and philosophy in relation to the problems at hand. This was one of the main purposes of getting the people together in the NRCA. Operating alone is wrong, and we already have too much of that now. The lone-wolf organizations and individuals are more concerned with themselves and with their own future than they are with the overall program.

Our whole effort in the Council has been to bring the organizations together and present a more unified front against our opponents. When people start going their individual ways, the coordinated program is cast asunder. Without meetings and communication, you lose the concepts and viewpoints of the other people in your related field. This is a serious loss, since one person tends to temper the other. When the members get together to discuss their problems in Council meetings, they frequently find, after listening to others, that some of their concepts are not as valid as they thought. Of course, the same could be true when you are confronted by people in industry who are merely trying to make a living.

All of our member organizations receive money that comes from the economics of this nation. In many cases the very people that are being attacked by conservationists are the ones who help keep conservation organizations in business.

Bowhead Arctic whale

CRG: Last April, when we in the World Wildlife Fund wanted to conduct one of the first studies of the bowhead whale along the west coast of Alaska, we secured the financial help so urgently needed from

one of the larger companies in the oil industry. World Wildlife had appropriated the funds to conduct most of the study that was to be done by a group of scientists, including a couple of Russians, but needed additional money for helicopter flying to trace the migration route of these large Arctic cetaceans, which is incidentally the right whale. It got the name right whale in early days. When the whalers a generation ago wanted to get whales, the right one to get was this bowhead Arctic whale, so it was called that. This species of whale has been on the endangered list for years, and its taking has been prohibited for a long time.

ERM: Where did you get the money to conduct this study?

CRG: The bulk of the money was raised from the general public by the World Wildlife Fund. We felt that a real effort should be made to determine the extent and pattern of the migration of this animal up the Alaska coast. We wished to make a count of the number of animals, and the best way to do this was with a jet helicopter. We wanted a Bell 207, since the whole side can be opened like a door to take motion pictures. The scientists wanted to fly a hundred miles offshore, across the floe ice, to observe the northward migration which takes place with the breakup of the ice.

I had been in Alaska and knew that the Atlantic-Richfield crews used helicopters, and this seemed like a good opportunity. I called Mr. T.F. Bradshaw, the president of the company, whom I knew to be a real conservationist. I said, "We desperately need about ten days of helicopter flying along the Alaskan coast and World Wildlife does not have that kind of money. We wonder if you could loan us a chopper?" He told me that they did not own helicopters, but contracted for them. I said, "I do not care how you do it, but we want to fly out of Point Lay or Icy Cape on a chartered course for ten days and up to a hundred miles offshore and observe the rare and endangered right whales in their northern migration." I asked him if they could contract for the helicopter, and he said, "What would it cost?" My response was that we did not know anything about the rates. I asked him directly, "Would you have your man check and see what it would cost to get a jet helicopter up there and do the desired flying?" One of his men called me back later and said that the rental would be fifteen to sixteen thousand dollars. I said to him, "Please tell Mr. Bradshaw that we would like to have him give the WWF fifteen thousand dollars so we can rent the chopper, since he does not have one," and he replied, "He will not do that." I said, "Ask him; I have

found him to be a great conservationist. Mr. Bradshaw once told me that in their oil work on the North Slope he had learned more about caribou migrations than he ever wanted to know, and that we conservationists had taught him many interesting things about wildlife," so I repeated, "Please ask him."

A few days later a check for fifteen thousand dollars came from the ARCO Foundation, and the entire whale study was completed on schedule and revealed an interesting and enlightening amount of valuable information. We have excellent recordings of the song of the right whale, and splendid movie and still pictures. We know more about the Arctic whale than ever has been known before.

This is a perfect illustration that the very people you jump on may be the ones that you are obliged to solicit when you need research funds. I do not know where else I could have gone for such help in only a few days.

In my conservation work over the years, I have learned to consider the rights and position of others. As time goes by, while age has not changed my attitude a bit about the imperative need to manage our natural resources and do what we can to preserve them, it has made me more understanding of the multitude of problems.

North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, 1971

CRG: Another time, for instance, we staged the annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Portland, Oregon, in 1971, and I called Bernard Orell of Weyerhaeuser and told him we were going to have a bunch of scientists out there, the leaders of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Units from eighteen of the land grant colleges and universities around the country. I said to him, "I would like to take these educators on a field trip to some of your clear-cut areas and some of the other interesting operations that Weyerhaeuser has not too far from Portland." He provided a bus and box lunches, and the Unit leaders learned a great deal on that tour of inspection. Weyerhaeuser benefited, too, by having those professors better able to tell a more enlightened story of good timber management to their students.

ERM: That ties in directly with what you said as a part of your paper at the Washington SAF meeting in 1949. Let me read it:

While speaking of industry activities, it is gratifying to say that excellent progress was reported in the recent "Trees for America" meeting at the Waldorf in New York. The on-the-ground field work described in one progress report, includes several types of personal contact and demonstrational activities rather than the mere distribution of literature. More power to them. Maybe the tons of publications that have been distributed for years and years did some good but a much higher return can be expected from the local extension-type of work.*

Would you classify what Weyerhaeuser did at that conference in 1971 as being local extension-type of work?

CRG: Yes, it could be so regarded.

Forest Cutting practices

CRG: I felt that we had been hearing a lot of questionable things about clear cutting and other "improper" forestry activities, as well as complaints about mismanagement of large timber areas. Here was an opportunity to educate some of the biologists. This obviously would be the first trip into the Northwest for some, and I thought that they should be able to get out on the ground and be allowed to ask questions.

A lot of unfortunate denouncing of clear cutting has gone on in some circles. There are certain species of trees that can only be re-generated by clear cutting. I know that in some cases enthusiastic loggers have overextended clear cutting. They have cut too large areas and have gone on too steep slopes. That is like the old cut-out-and-get-out type of logging. The fact remains that, for the most part, our land-management programs are going quite well in this country. Now that we have had an all-out onslaught of clear cutting, we gradually will get our feet on the ground. But this is not apt to slow down some people who already have pictures of deplorable examples of clear cutting.

*Ibid., p. 887.

This leads to another problem that should be mentioned. Airplane flying has changed the whole picture in this country. It has caused some of the millions of airline passengers to get a poor picture of certain logging practices. People get in one of the huge jets and fly over the Rocky Mountains and look down on excessive clear-cut areas. They cannot judge from their thirty-five thousand foot elevation what the conditions truly are on the ground, except that it looks bad to them. The majority of them know nothing about forestry. A seat companion points to the large cutover block surrounded by vast timbered tracts, and both air travelers agree that it is horrible. They do not hook up what they see with their daily newspaper, with their houses, their furniture, and other wood products.

My wife is an extremist too when it comes to cutting trees. She thinks that cutting a Christmas tree every year for the White House lawn is an unconscionable act. Every year she says, "Why don't they plant a tree and let it grow?" So, I find myself saying each year, "What are we growing millions of acres of trees for, if we are not to harvest some?" Growing Christmas trees is big business in this country. Those tree merchants are not cutting trees, they are harvesting a crop. I see nothing wrong with all of us perpetuating the delightful concept of Tannenbaum that has come down through the ages.

ERM: In the same paper you gave the SAF foresters in 1949, you said:

This forest-wildlife program is so broad and complex that it is difficult to stay on any one topic. Then, again, there are so many federal agencies here represented that I do not know which one to criticize first. Since this is a meeting of professional foresters, maybe I should attack the entire fraternity on general principles. For many years I have been helping to fight your battles. Now, here among friends, let me say that foresters on the whole have been too narrow in their views. The more progressive ones now realize that they have been practicing tree forestry instead of land management. Some of the old-timers have learned to talk a good game of multiple use but, even today, in reality, they are still devoting the bulk of their efforts to fighting fires and growing trees. *

*Ibid. p. 177.

Let me ask you a question twenty-four years later. Do you feel foresters are still narrow in their views?

CRG: There has been a complete change of attitude on the part of many foresters, but I am inclined to think that even today there must be considerable room for improvement, since the U.S. Forest Service currently is under one of its most severe attacks of all time. The fact that there are powerful demands to overcut the national forests, and that there is strong support for this by professional foresters in business, is an indication that we still have some short-sighted individuals hereabout.

There is a limit to the cut that can possibly be made on the national forests of this country. The only ones who can actually know what this amount is are the professionals. The attitude in the minds of some people in high places, both in government and in industry, tends to be serious. Strong efforts are being made to inject a certain amount of logic into the attempts to justify a larger cutting program. There was a tremendous demand for cutting timber in the Pacific Northwest with large shipments of logs going to Japan. Profits of some of the big timber companies went up 75 percent. Those companies logged their own lands heavily during that period of great demand and then requested a substantial increase in the cut on the national forests to bail them out on their overcutting. I do not know the answers to all these things, but the present administration has been reducing the annual appropriations for management programs severely. I am wondering what overall effect all of these actions will have on the future of this nation.

ERM: The Forest Service has been cut back by well over a million dollars in its appropriations this year.

CRG: That is right, and the Bureau of Land Management is another typical example of what I am talking about. According to my studies, and the report of the Public Land Law Review Commission, BLM has returned seven dollars to the United States Treasury for every operating dollar spent. * Think about it, the number of employees that the federal government has to manage the seven hundred seventy million acres of public lands that we have left in this country is ridiculous. One man has hundreds of thousands of acres to look

* Wayne N. Aspinall, chairman, One Third of the Nation's Land, report by the Public Land Law Review Commission to the President and Congress (Washington, D.C., 1970).

after. I have contended that if the Congress could be induced to spend a little more money on the management of our public lands the returns would be tenfold. But for some reason it is impossible to get this across to the Congress.

There are powerful influences at work right now for increasing the cut on the national forests. I am disturbed as to what effect this is going to have on the Forest Service. Hopefully, these fears are ill-founded. But on the other hand, I have my doubts since there always has been too much of an inclination in a mercenary-minded country like ours to get what we can today and to hell with tomorrow.

ERM: What you are saying now is really what a lot of people say about the Alaska pipeline. They say that we are more anxious in getting out the oil now for immediate use. And we're not thinking about the future needs of the country at all. We're only thinking about supplying our immediate needs. Isn't that right?

CRG: Maybe so. At our meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska, on September 2, 1970, a number of leading conservationists said that we ought to be doing more to slow down the need for energy in this country. This is beginning to come about now. Perhaps we need to do more to force curtailment. It is going to take an awful lot to change the American way of life, and our way has been the lack of controls. We customarily go ahead and exploit what we can and forget tomorrow.

ERM: I think this was the main thesis of your paper in 1949. You were saying that there are other values other than dollars and cents values that have to be taken into account.

CRG: That is so right. I had forgotten all about that presentation until you mentioned it. But this is typical. I represented the NRCA and other conservation organizations at the meeting in the U.S. Forest Service several years ago to plan the Timber Resources Survey that was to be conducted to estimate the quantity of timber in the United States. * I got into a real battle in that meeting with all you foresters.

*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Timber Resources for America's Future, Forest Resource Report No. 14 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, January 1958).

ERM: I'm not a forester, I'm an historian.

CRG: Oh, you are not. Well, I raised particular hell about the fact that they were insisting on including the national parks and wilderness areas in their timber stand tabulation. I said, "I do not give a damn how many billion board feet there are in the national parks and wilderness areas because you never are going to cut them anyway, so what difference does it make if there are trillions of board feet in those areas? It is none of your business how much is in there." They said, "We ought to know anyway." I replied, "I do not agree with you. If you ever get to the place where we need to start cutting in the wilderness areas and national parks, this nation will be in serious trouble. It would be an unprecedented national emergency before the citizenry ever would permit you guys to look in those preserves, so forget them and let the future take care of itself." As a result of all my barking, they did not include those areas. I guess it would not have made any difference anyway, they ended up with a total estimate of the available timber in the United States that was of little use. Even so, we must have someone in such meetings, like you say, to be the devil's advocate in behalf of the general public.

ERM: Let me read more from your 1949 SAF talk:

One of the main reasons that forestry has been slow in catching on in many places is due to the overwhelming desire on the part of most people to figure everything in dollar values. Market prices for all forest products are determined to a large degree by the production cost of the most efficient operators. The most efficient operators are those who cut clean and get out. It will not be easy to change all this, but who would have thought a few years ago that we soon would be paying more for the sport of taking less ducks?

When speaking in terms of dollar values, let's be mercenary and practical for a minute. You are interested in better forestry management and no less than 30 million people want more fish and game. Of all the large land-management agencies, the Forest Service definitely has done the best job. Only a few selfish minority groups who are attempting to grab the public domain have challenged the splendid program that is being administered. Yes, the Forest Service has worked hard on forest, range, and watershed management, still they have refused to

recognize the value of public relations. That is, it took them a long time to learn a few simple rules of salesmanship.*

I remember in reading your earlier pronouncements, that you have addressed yourself very often to the importance of salesmanship in what you have done. Here you are telling the Forest Service that it has been negligent in that area of the simple rules of salesmanship. This you believed to be true in 1949; has it been your continuing judgment during the last twenty-four years?

Wildlife interest

CRG: What I had in mind was that the Forest Service, in its efforts to sell its forestry program, had not been taking full advantage of the widespread interest that the general public has in wildlife. Many people would take more of an interest in forest land if they realized its wildlife values.

I was thinking back in that particular comment to the same thing that took place in my earlier years in the Indiana Department of Conservation. We had the administration of the state forests in my department and we had an exceedingly hard time getting it across to the foresters that they should be doing more to publicize the other public values of their forests than merely growing trees. I believe that attitude has changed decidedly.

There has been a tremendous improvement in the Forest Service over the years in providing more recreational facilities, and the national forests now furnish a high percentage of all the big game hunting in the United States. This simple fact has done more to stimulate public support for the national forest program than anything else. Fascinating wild creatures, rather than their habitat, are what people can understand and appreciate. The percentage of people that are interested in growing trees is infinitesimal in comparison with those interested in wildlife. We finally got this over to the Hoosier

*C.R. Gutermuth, "Forest-Wildlife Ideologies," Journal of Forestry 47 (November 1949): p. 887.

foresters, that they could popularize their program by attaching it to and associating it with the state's fish and game activities.

- ERM: I would point out that the Forest Service is one of the agencies of the federal government usually credited with being most progressive in this area of public relations. It was Gifford Pinchot who initiated an early public relations office in the Forest Service, long before other agencies of government adopted it.
- CRG: You also could have mentioned and included its Division of Wildlife Management. The Forest Service also has had such a division for a quarter of a century at least, and probably longer.
- ERM: Pink, I see the problem not so much as reticence on the part of the Forest Service hierarchy to promote larger activities of a true multiple-use nature, as the intransigence of the Congress to recognize these things as being truly important. It is one thing to go up on the Hill to sell a bigger program in wildlife management, watershed management, wilderness development, or recreational research. It is quite another thing to get the Congress to buy it. The Forest Service is catching a lot of hell these days that really ought to be put on the doorstep of the Congress.
- CRG: I believe this always has been so, particularly in regard to the management agencies. Of course, Congress must look after the budgetary expenses of this country and keep things in check; someone always must ride herd on the fantastically large government expenses. I am quite concerned, however, about the fact that adequate money has not been made available by the Congress to properly manage the vast income-producing properties in public ownership. Perhaps a more deplorable situation can be seen in the misuse being made of lands that were bought with duck stamp fees, Pittman-Robertson Act funds, and other sportsmen's money for national wildlife refuge purposes. * The sportsmen provided the money to create these wildlife areas, and now all at once there is a complete abandonment of the management responsibilities by the federal government. According to recent announcements, I see where there are some thirty or more national wildlife refuges that will be abandoned completely.
- ERM: In the name of economy?

*Wildlife Restoration Act of 2 September 1937, 50 Stat 917, also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act.

- CRG: That is right. The cuts in the Forest Service are typical, and the Bureau of Land Management has suffered no end of economy moves in the last two or three years.
- ERM: Who do you blame for that?
- CRG: We must put a great deal of the blame on the administration for the overall problems. Whether you blame President Nixon personally, or his top underlings, is up to you, but somehow the whole economic structure in this country is shot. We are in real serious trouble in the United States, and, as always, the conservation programs seem to be the first to suffer.
- ERM: Yes, I would agree we're in very serious trouble.
- CRG: Our entire financial and monetary situation is in a mess. The stock market prices are way down, and I experienced some things recently that I never thought would ever happen. I was in Paris following a World Wildlife Fund Executive Council meeting at Soestdyjk Palace in Baarn, the Netherlands, at the time the dollar was devalued, and I could not even get a U.S. ten dollar bill accepted anywhere. They would not accept U.S. currency at all, believe it or not. I had to go to an American Express office to get one of their traveler's checks cashed. The hotel would not accept either my American Express card or U.S. currency. The joker was that the hotel would take my personal check for the bill, apparently because it felt that in due course foreign exchange would level off to its advantage.
- I might not worry too much about these far-off perplexing international trade and economic matters, except that our domestic problems are equally bad.

EARLY YEARS OF NRCA

Participants

ERM: Dr. Gutermuth, this is my final interview session with you and I'd like you to give me your best recollections of the origins of the Natural Resources Council of America and, in particular, try to outline the importance of the various individuals who, with you, helped to set up the Council in 1946. Could you just run down the list of people who were involved? Characterize their inputs to the venture and try to appraise their importance in the origins of the particular organization.

CRG: Well, Mr. Maunder, the actual beginning of the NRCA was at Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. While there were those predecessor meetings that we mentioned yesterday, which were called by people who were thinking of forming a super organization, they must have realized before Mammoth Cave that there was little chance of bringing all of the many national and regional conservation organizations and scientific societies together in one association. It became clear to many of us in the very beginning that this was not the answer, and what we did at that meeting in Kentucky was to crystallize the thinking of the majority of those in attendance. At least, that definitely was the outcome. Practically all of the people must have felt that forming the National Resources Council of America was the best alternative.

We had a lot of exceedingly prominent people in that meeting. One of those that I may not have mentioned before was Mr. Tom Wallace, the editor of the Louisville Times. He was tremendously interested in wildlife and natural resources conservation and was one of the fiery newspaper editors of that era. Tom was an influential figure in his day, and I believe that we subsequently made him an honorary member of the NRCA.

Another active person, who incidentally recently moved to Santa Rosa, California, and whom you might be able to interview out there, is Harry E. Radcliffe. He was the vice-president of the American Nature Association and was present and quite active in the original meeting. In fact, he was elected treasurer and served in that important capacity for many years. Harry retired after the

ANA was disbanded, and he has a lot of knowledge about the affairs of the NRCA over the years.

Mentioning the American Nature Association recalls another of the shocking disappointments of my life. Its dissolution was most unfortunate and even inexcusable to my way of thinking, and I was a dues-paying member. The ANA was simply disbanded by its backers, and the members were not consulted. I always thought that it had a perfect name for a conservation organization and it was a good outfit. Its periodical, Nature Magazine, was an excellent publication, and while its membership was not large, possibly less than a thousand, it had great potentialities. Maybe I liked its name because of the similarity to that of my first organization upon coming to the nation's capitol, American Wildlife Institute. Both were short names, and came near the beginning of any alphabetical listing. Perhaps that was not too important, but I liked to have my organization listed near the top whenever the organizations got together.

Harry Radcliffe was the business manager of the ANA and he did not begin to get into conservation activities until about the time that the NRCA was formed. He was quite active in later years, however.

ERM: Why do you suppose the American Nature Association assigned its business manager to the NRCA rather than its president?

CRG: I do not know, except that the president, Richard Westwood, had been turning more and more activities over to Harry. Of course, Dick may have thought that being treasurer was a little below his dignity. By the way, Dick Westwood passed on very suddenly a couple of years later.

Dr. Robert Griggs was at the original meeting at Mammoth Cave. He was with the University of Pittsburg in some capacity, but I believe he was a rather celebrated person and was getting near the retirement age. He and Dr. Charles C. Adams, who also was very much in the forefront, had been two of the people who had been supporting a new super organization. Both of them did, however, get behind and take an active part in the NRCA for several years. Dr. Adams was a distinguished biologist-ecologist and had retired a few years earlier as director of the New York State Museum in Albany. He also was a past president of the Ecological Society of America.

ERM: Wasn't he designated an honorary life member, perhaps the first honorary member of the Council? So he obviously did not have an institutional tie.

CRG: No, at that time he definitely was retired. There is no question about that, and this is the reason that I was a little vague about his affiliation. Dr. Adams probably was least active of all of those people, but he was an honorary type of person, and I believe they did elect him to be the first honorary member.

When we were talking at lunch, you mentioned a Dr. Adams as being associated with the Department of Fish and Game in New York. That was William Adams. I knew him well. Bill was the director and an outspoken, dynamic, autocratic type of person. Quite a guy. I knew Bill and respected him, but he was an entirely different person than the other Dr. Adams who was active for a while in the early days of the Council.

Zahniser, Carhart, Leopold, Clepper

CRG: Now, although I was instrumental in calling the meeting at Mammoth Cave, the person who really got things started and spark plugged it was Howard C. Zahniser. The minutes of that initial gathering that you mentioned should contain a lot of his writings. Among other things, Howard was quite a voluminous writer. He used considerable poetry to emphasize his points. Howard was the son of a minister, if I am not mistaken, and was a high-grade person. He must be regarded as the godfather of the wilderness movement in this country. While the Wilderness Society was formed by Robert Marshall and others long before Zahniser came aboard, Howard was the one who actually put that society on the map and pushed through the legislation that ultimately got the wilderness system established.

ERM: There's a great deal of debate today over who was the "father" of wilderness. There are those who put up Arthur Carhart's name and there are others who put up Aldo Leopold's name. Have you any favorite?

CRG: No, not a favorite, but it was neither Carhart nor Leopold. Art Carhart has much to his credit and he authored many books. I

have known him personally for many years. I helped promote the publishing of his book, Planning for America's Wildlands, which was sponsored jointly by the National Audubon Society, National Parks Association, the Wilderness Society, and the Wildlife Management Institute. * We put a \$2.50 price on this paperback volume, but the four co-publishers gave many copies away because it was a forthright and progressive type of treatise. I seem to recall it advocated the zoning of wild lands or land-use planning, which had real merit and was way ahead of its time. This is what is being pushed today, and land-use planning will have to come as greater demands are placed on our limited land resources.

Aldo Leopold was the patriarch of our wildlife profession. While he was a trained forester and started out in forestry work, he made his international reputation in biology, ecology, and game management. His 1933 book, Game Management, became the bible of the wildlife management profession, a much-used teaching textbook, a classic. ** He also was the author of the celebrated book, A Sand County Almanac, that is quoted far and wide. ***

The Wildlife Society named its highest professional award, the Aldo Leopold Medal, in tribute to his astute and farsighted thinking and pronouncements. I received this distinctive award in 1957, and it is the highlight of my career. This coveted award is the epitome in our profession and is my most cherished possession. Professor Leopold was a brilliant pioneer leader who manifested wide knowledge and erudite philosophy in his writings. He was the chairman of a select committee and wrote the first "American Game Policy" that was presented and adopted in the American Game Conference in New York City in 1930. **** That remarkable document served as

*Arthur H. Carhart, Planning for America's Wildlands (National Audubon Society, National Parks Association, Wilderness Society, and Wildlife Management Institute, 1961).

**Aldo Leopold, Game Management (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1933).

***Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There (New York: Oxford University Press, 1949).

****Aldo Leopold, "The American Game Policy," presented at the 16th American Game Conference, 3 December 1929, Washington, D.C. Reprinted by (Washington, D.C.: Wildlife Management Institute, 1971).

the basic guideline for state and federal wildlife management efforts for more than four decades. In other words, he and the others obviously were thinking way ahead of their time; they still are ahead of us in some of the concepts even today.

ERM: Who else among the early founding fathers would you care to mention? What about Kenneth A. Reid?

CRG: Ken Reid was one of the stalwarts in support of forming a Council rather than a super organization. He was a truly outstanding person. Ken had been the executive director of the Izaak Walton League of America for many years. It had its headquarters in Chicago, which was somewhat of a handicap to Reid since all the rest of us were in Washington, and it was difficult for him to get to the nation's capitol to attend all of the many conferences and meetings that were being held at that time. Ken did better on that score than you might expect and he always contributed a great deal, not only in the early days of the Council, but to the development of our overall conservation program in this country. I would rank him among the top of all of the people present at the first or initial meetings of the Council.

Another of the stalwarts in the original meeting and one who is still going strong is Henry Clepper, the now-retired executive secretary of the Society of American Foresters. I mentioned that Henry was present at the meeting in the Cosmos Club in 1945 when I instigated the starting of the Conservation News Service. While he represented only a comparatively small society in relation to some of the others, Henry recognized the need for more legislative information and was the first one to speak out after I offered to put up three hundred dollars to get the proposed news service started. Henry indicated that he would have to get approval to contribute but he was the one who helped get the project going.

ERM: Like the evangelist who calls for the first to come forward?

CRG: That is exactly right, and permit me to say a few other nice things about Henry Clepper. Not only is he a quiet, scholarly type of individual, and a profound thinker, but I love his fancy dress. He always is a perfect picture of good taste and an unusually courteous gentleman. Henry Clepper has undoubtedly done more to advance the NRCA than anybody, including me. As I told you previously, he conceived and initiated all of the Council's books. They were not only promoted by Henry, but he always amused me when he would get up in a meeting and rather reluctantly say, "Do you suppose I

could have a minute or so to talk about a new idea?", and I jokingly would say, "Well, Henry I guess we can always give you a minute, since you never have wasted our time yet," and he then would come forth with a really outstanding recommendation. Everyone respected him and everyone knew that if he started a project he would do a good job. His promotion of that string of Council books has been fantastic. And, not only that, they have all been exceedingly profitable. All of the authors have donated their services and the royalties have gone to the NRCA. * This has helped create a cash reserve for the Council, but more than that, the books have done much to build up the prestige of the Council. It is hoped that the Council will have you interview Henry.

There were two or three others present at the so-called formation meeting at Mammoth Cave who should be mentioned. In the first place, we had only one woman representative in attendance, Ms. Dorothy M. Hill of the Sierra Club, and even though I had not met her before, she definitely did much to help keep the discussions in perspective.

Then, the record would not be complete if both Carl W. Buchheister and Carl D. Shoemaker were not included. Shoemaker has been discussed in a number of different ways and that may be sufficient, but Carl W. Buchheister was there representing John H. Baker, then president of the National Audubon Society, and his wisdom and quiet persuasiveness was a tremendous help in keeping the discussions going along practical lines. This was before Buchheister became president of the National Audubon Society. Perhaps I should add that both of the above Carls felt that we needed little more than a forum or clearinghouse where we could discuss the many conservation problems with which we were confronted.

"A Policy for Renewable Natural Resources," 1952

CRG: The Council got going on the drafting or formulating of "A Policy for Renewable Natural Resources" only a couple of years after it was organized. * The idea was initiated by Drs. Edward H. Graham

*See footnote * p. 33.

**For a copy of this policy, see Appendix B, pp. 136-40.

Howard C. Zahniser, and others. It is my recollection that John H. Baker, Henry Clepper, Ira N. Gabrielson, Fairfield Osborn, Harry E. Radcliffe, Kenneth A. Reid, Carl D. Shoemaker, and I did most of the work over a period of two or three years in trying to draft the policy. The desire was to formulate a natural resources policy that all of the member organizations could adopt and support. We had meeting after meeting striving to settle on the different points that we wanted to cover, and at times it seemed to be an almost impossible task. I was the chairman of the earlier meetings and we then got Dr. Gabrielson to serve as chairman of a smaller group to draft a more concise final version.

ERM: You mean a kind of manifesto?

CRG: Yes, I suppose, except that the end product became quite a classic document. We never could get all of the organizations to adopt it verbatim, but twenty-one of them endorsed it in principle initially, and a number of others added their names later. In the earlier drafting meetings, everybody wanted to quibble over words and we generated some of the worst word-quibbling sessions that ever happened in the history of the world, not discounting those surrounding the writing of the Constitution of the United States. What we ended up with was a kind of Bill of Rights. In those long sessions, since we never could get unanimity of agreement on all of the precise details, we finally did get a concensus on an excellent statement of justification, a good preamble, and ten basic policy recommendations that are solid. I believe that everyone agreed that it was a truly outstanding achievement.

I insisted that the statement be printed to appear like the Constitution or Bill of Rights for widespread distribution. It listed the names of all of the member organizations that approved it in principle prior to its presentation at the 17th North American Wildlife Conference in Miami, Florida, on March 18, 1952. By the way, in its printed form, the statement is a big thing, about three feet high and two feet wide.

ERM: Do you have copies of it?

CRG: Oh yes, they are around, but I do not have any myself. I have seen a number of framed ones on the walls in the offices of several members of Congress.

White House reception

CRG: When we got the statement all done, we had one of the large wall versions framed for presentation to President Eisenhower. This was at the beginning of his first term. When a large group of Council representatives got ready to go to the White House to present the framed document to the president, I asked Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson to help me do the presenting. His brother, Guy Gabrielson, had been the Republican national chairman, and I thought that this would give us a better entrée to Ike. We knew that Guy was no longer chairman but did not know that there were any feelings about this at the White House. In any event, some of the White House flunkies must have sold the president a bill of goods, because when our large group arrived, I have never known of a more rude reception at the White House in all my years in Washington. Nevertheless, backed up by the heads of about thirty national organizations, in behalf of the Council, I presented the framed-under-glass statement to President Eisenhower with a great deal of fanfare. The group had its picture taken with the president, and that part was perfect.

I do not know whether somebody had misinformed Eisenhower on the idea and purpose of our mission, but that reception was about the coolest thing that I ever experienced, and it was quite a shock to me, because here we had the heads of most of the larger national conservation organizations and scientific societies who merely wanted to greet the new chief executive and make a presentation.

ERM: You mean there was a coolness on Eisenhower's part?

CRG: Exactly, it was almost a kiss-off so to speak, and what prompted it or brought it about, we never did learn. As I said, we thought that by having Dr. Gabrielson beside me when I presented this framed statement on renewable natural resources to the president, we would have the best reception and that he would spend a little time with us. Instead, he rather reluctantly had his aides line us up, put some on platforms around him, shoot a few pictures, and usher us out. This whole thing was regarded by all of us at that time as a very rude reception.

Later on, President Eisenhower was quite friendly toward the conservationists. I would not cast him as a real poor president in regard to conservation, but that particular event was long remembered. As I indicated, we presented copies of that printed policy statement



NRCA delegates presenting a framed copy of "A Policy for Renewable Natural Resources" to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, at the White House, April 28, 1953. Pictured from left to right, front row, Harlean James, American Planning and Civic Association; Hugh H. Bennett, Soil Conservation Society; Richard W. Westwood, American Nature Association; Michael Hudoba, Outdoor Writers Association of America; Bestor Robinson, Sierra Club; President Eisenhower; Ira N. Gabrielson, Wildlife Management Institute; C.R. Gutermuth, North American Wildlife Foundation; William Voigt, Jr., Izaak Walton League of America; Chester S. Wilson, International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissions. Rear row from left to right, Fred M. Packard, National Parks Association; Murray D. Lincoln, Cooperative League of the USA; Anthony Wayne Smith, National Parks Association; Charles H. Callison, National Wildlife Federation; Howard C. Zahniser, Wilderness Society; Henry E. Clepper, Society of American Foresters; Carl D. Shoemaker, National Wildlife Federation; Benton J. Strong, Public Affairs Institute; Robert J. Lewis, National Farmers Union; Ollie E. Fink, Friends of the Land.

to all of the members of Congress, and you will find them framed and on display in many offices around Washington. The statement is a rather profound document. I do not think we could improve on it much today.

WHITE HOUSE CONSERVATIONISTS

Lyndon B. Johnson

ERM: You mentioned the attitude of the White House toward conservation. In your observations, Dr. Gutermuth, who have been the great champions of conservation in the White House in your time? Who stands out as being the most important conservationist?

CRG: I do not know that I could answer that. It is exceedingly hard to rate and classify presidents. Everyone grades people differently. Lyndon B. Johnson was outstanding in many ways. He promoted a lot of conservation developments. I mean he established a substantial number of wildlife refuge and national park areas, and he secured the enactment of a lot of forthright and progressive pieces of natural resources legislation. President Johnson handed out more law-signing pens than any of his predecessors that I have known. I have a dozen or so of the pens at home that he used to sign important conservation measures into law. I have had a couple of fellows say to me that his pens were a dime a dozen, and my answer has been, "Do you have one?", and when they reply, "Well, no," then I have been inclined to say, "Then they really are not a dime a dozen." I would be reluctant to give one pen away because each was used when I was there with the president and each one was used to sign a major piece of conservation legislation.

John F. Kennedy

CRG: I knew President John F. Kennedy very well. My contacts with him went back to his days in the United States Senate, and my first visit with him in the White House was when I was the chairman of the 1962 Sesquicentennial Celebration Commission (150th anniversary) of the Homestead Act and the opening of the Public Land Office. I found him to be tremendously interested in natural resources conservation during his comparatively short period as the president.



Miniature Plow Presentation to President Kennedy, February 13, 1962, on the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the Homestead Act. Pictured from left to right, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall; President John F. Kennedy; Willis Scholl, President, Allis-Chalmers Company, Milwaukee; C.R. Gutermuth, Vice-President, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, D.C.

ERM: Was his interest in conservation one of any depth?

CRG: Yes. President Kennedy had a profound interest in wildlife management and in the better use of our natural resources. More than that, when he was in the Senate I got him to introduce a bill that would have given the nonprofit, tax-exempt conservation organizations much more leeway in lobbying for those kinds of natural resources legislative proposals that would be in the broad public interest. John F. Kennedy had introduced the bill as a congressman, and we were working on it when he decided to run for the presidency, which terminated our efforts. We need that sort of legislation, but I never was able to get back to devoting the time it would take to get such a bill through the Congress.

There were some bills introduced in the House recently that go about halfway as far as I wanted to go with my proposal, but they have not been pushed by their sponsors. I firmly believe that if the big corporations and other commercial interests can carry on regular lobbying and public relations activities in support of the legislation that they want and charge it all to business expense, then the conservation organizations should be permitted to lobby for those things covered by their charters. If the Internal Revenue Service found that the programs of those organizations were of sufficient public benefit to warrant tax-exemption, then those legitimate organizations should be able to urge citizen support for necessary legislation.

John F. Kennedy recognized that private, nonprofit, tax-exempt conservation organizations are entitled to more latitude, especially when their programs and activities are devoted entirely to improving conditions for wildlife and the better management and utilization of natural resources in the broad public interest. I personally am in full support of this concept and trust that other legislators will consider its merits.

Harry S. Truman

CRG: Getting back to conservation-minded presidents, I went over to call on Harry S. Truman with a small group of conservationists shortly after he became president, and a few of us remained to talk with

him afterwards. I had known him as a senator and found that upon this occasion he had considerable difficulty in finding subjects of mutual interest to talk about. However, a year later when I went back to talk with him again, it was gratifying to see how much he had changed and what a keen interest he had in the conservation matters that we wished to discuss with him. President Truman had developed tremendously, and then still later he became quite a leader in conservation affairs. I went on morning walks with him a dozen times here in Washington and elsewhere.

ERM: While he was president?

CRG: Yes, while he was president and afterwards. He came back to Washington frequently for a year or two after he left the White House, and he was a great person for breakfast meetings. You could make a date with him for breakfast quicker than anything else, but if you did, you had to go for a walk with him first. He had to get his exercise and he always walked too fast for me. President Truman was a great person. He was never one for fanfare or anything like that, and was not too outwardly, but from the standpoint of being solid for conservation I respected him highly.

ERM: Was he a person who was always requesting information?

CRG: Yes.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

CRG: The one who asked questions and had the most fantastic memory was Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He had a memory like the proverbial elephant. If you said something to him once, he would never forget it. Whenever you would return to his office at a later time, it was not unusual for him to say out of a clear sky, "You were in here a year ago and were concerned about a serious problem in the national forests; has that been settled, or is it still troubling you?" Of course, if you could not remember the circumstances, or if you were not up-to-date, it could be embarrassing. All those who had this happen to them a couple of times soon learned to brush up on their previous notes before going over for another meeting.

Richard M. Nixon

CRG: It is extremely difficult to classify and judge people on the basis of their conservation interest and activities. From my viewpoint, however, Richard M. Nixon never manifested any interest in conservation during the time he was in the United States Senate. If he ever displayed any concern for wildlife conservation it would have been years back when he was in the House of Representatives. The experience of the vast majority of the heads of the national conservation organizations is, that since he has gone to the White House, it has been virtually impossible to get through to President Nixon at all. He is regarded as a nonentity in conservation by a high percentage of my colleagues. He did invite about a dozen leading conservationists to the White House about two years ago, and all those present were well-pleased with the splendid dialogue they had with the president for over an hour. Yet, it has been virtually impossible to reach anyone over there since that time.

ERM: Mr. Nixon has the reputation of being a loner, a person who's very hard to reach, and from what we have seen in the testimony before the Watergate hearing, it would appear that he was kept from hearing a lot of things by some of his own staff.

CRG: That could be, but I fault him on that and no one else. I mean, he is the master of his own fate in the White House, and the fact that he is holding himself aloof and away from the leading conservationists of this country is inexcusable.

ERM: And from the press and from the public. I wonder what it is in Nixon that makes him such a recluse?

CRG: I do not know, but we have not been able to reach him or any of his new assistants. I have talked with him a dozen times over the past few years, but have never seen any indication of the slightest interest in conservation. I could cite a number of illustrations of his indifference. Take those law-signing ceremonies; while they may be meaningless to some people, when they have had a signing, it has tended to focus worldwide attention on the law being enacted, because the press covers those gatherings and those important pieces of legislation. I do not see anything wrong with having a group of influential people present for the signing of laws that are of prime interest to them. Now, of course, maybe President Johnson overdid it. But the politicians seem to go from one

extreme to another, and I think that President Nixon is making another serious mistake in this regard.

More than that, I think that under the Nixon administration this indifference is working adversely against all of our conservation programs. Budgets are being cut tremendously, as with the National Wildlife Refuge System. It has been built up slowly over all the years going back to the days of President Theodore Roosevelt.

BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB

Formation

CRG: Incidentally, Theodore Roosevelt was the greatest conservationist of them all. Maybe he was over-rated in some ways, but I do not think so. I only met TR once, but his son Archibald, who is still active, is a close friend of mine. Archie and I have been active members of the Boone and Crockett Club, which his father started, for more than a quarter century. Archie is an honorary president, and I am the first vice-president of the club.

ERM: How does one become a member of this group?

CRG: The club is about eighty-seven years old and is still limited to one hundred members today.

ERM: By invitation only?

CRG: Oh yes, and while we have about fifty associate members, which are elected by the hundred regular members, it always has been a very exclusive club. It has been an action club composed primarily of influential and affluent people. I mean noteworthy conservationists like the late Childs Frick and Richard K. Mellon, and present leaders like Robert M. Ferguson and Laurance S. Rockefeller.

ERM: What would you have to say about the Boone and Crockett Club as an influence in the conservation movement?

CRG: Well, it has been in the forefront of all of the major conservation battles for nearly a century. Of course, it is a small club made up largely of leaders in business and finance, in and around New York City for the most part, that have been conscientiously interested in advancing wildlife conservation and management. Theodore Roosevelt started the club long before he became President of the United States, in order to promote big game conservation and restoration. The original charter specified that the regular members must have taken at least three species of big game animals in fair chase to qualify. All of the members have not done this because, as I stated, we have about fifty associate members that have been

selected primarily for their scientific background or past achievements in conservation. The one hundred voting-members have qualified and are the ones who perpetuate the club.

As you know, it has been a tremendous job to preserve and improve the management of our big game populations in this country, and the club has done much to stimulate scientific programs at both the state and federal levels. It brought about the establishment of Mount McKinley National Park, the Sheldon Antelope Refuge, Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge, and other such wildlife sanctuaries.

Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge

CRG: While I did most of the fund-raising and land acquisition work to create the Key Deer Refuge in Florida, the Boone and Crockett Club got the emergency program started. In other words, Richard Borden and I, as members of the club's conservation committee, got the club to provide the first money to hire the first game warden to protect the small remnant of those tiny deer. Then, about six months later, as the secretary of the North American Wildlife Foundation, I started to raise money to buy the land that eventually was presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish the refuge. I still am the secretary-treasurer of the Foundation. I went down to Florida at that time and bought the land for the refuge headquarters on Big Pine Key, which is the first key south of the Seven-mile Bridge on the Overseas Highway. That long stretch of open ocean is what separates the Lower Keys from those to the north and is what keeps the small Key Deer from mingling with the normal-size white-tails in the Upper Keys and on the mainland of Florida.

ERM: They couldn't swim then?

CRG: They could not swim that distance. It is because of seven miles of open ocean and the fact they could not cross the seven-mile long bridge because of the heavy traffic, that has caused them to continue to live in that area of sparse habitat. This has resulted in their miniature size.

So it was as the Foundation secretary that I bought the original land and gave it to the federal government to create the refuge. I selected the headquarters site myself in company with Ralph Miller of the Atlanta Regional Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I found that this original sixteen-acre tract was owned by Mr. Radford Crane of Miami Beach, who proved to be an active and enthusiastic conservationist, and he donated that headquarters property and other habitat lands to the Foundation to add to the refuge. But, let me repeat, this whole emergency program was initiated by the Boone and Crockett Club.

RECALLING MORE OF EARLY NRCA DAYS

CRG: Mr. Maunder, there were two other people that took an active part in the early meetings of the NRCA, Louis Bromfield and Ollie E. Fink, both of Ohio. Ollie is still active, I believe, but we have lost track of him completely. He was the secretary of Friends of the Land.

ERM: Columbus, Ohio?

CRG: Near there, but Louie's farm, Pleasant Valley, was out of Mansfield, Ohio. Louie was a good friend of mine, and while he seldom came to the Council meetings, Ollie kept him informed of all NRCA activities.

ERM: And you had one of your big meetings down there.

CRG: Yes, we had one annual meeting there at the farm, and Louie was there as a gracious host with his big boxer dogs. Pleasant Valley, with its excellent land-use practices, was an ideal place for our Council meeting. It also had a lot of romance connected with Louie and his writings.

ERM: What about Dr. Thurlow Nelson of the American Society of Zoologists? Did he play a part?

CRG: Well, he came along later, I think. It does not seem to me that he was very active in the Council.

ERM: Dr. John K. Wright of the American Geographical Society?

CRG: I think Dr. Wright participated hardly at all.

ERM: How about Dr. Richard L. Weaver, secretary of the American Nature Study Society?

CRG: Dick was at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and while he was a member from the beginning, he never was able to get to many of the Council meetings.

ERM: Dr. Paul B. Sears?

CRG: Paul took an active part for several years, and as I mentioned, he was the chairman of our Science Service Committee for a while. He was the one in whom we had the greatest hopes that he would be able to bring the member scientific societies into active participation in the Council. I believe I told you that the Council appropriated a little money to his committee at the Greenwich, Connecticut annual meeting of the NRCA, but that never worked out.

This Science Service Committee function would have been one of the greatest achievements of the Council if we had been able to get it going. It was a splendid idea that did not work for several reasons, the main one being that we could not provide enough money to finance the kind of studies we wanted done. The second reason, as I said, was the lack of a direct relationship with the constantly changing officers of the various societies. There was no one to cultivate a working relationship with; you would get to know one secretary or president, and before long he would be gone. A new one would be elected and you'd have to start all over.

ERM: Do you think the scientific societies have in any way been aware of this?

CRG: Yes, at least in a few cases. The reason I say that is because I myself have specifically called on the presidents of several societies and urged them to take a greater part in the Council program. This was years back, and I no more than made those contacts that those very officers were replaced. Now, I believe, except for a couple of the larger ones like the Ecological Society, the Council officers let the members decide whether they want to take an active part.

Thomas H. Langlois's disenchantment with NRCA.

ERM: Dr. Thomas H. Langlois was a long-term, active representative of both the American Society of Limnologists and the Ecological Society and he became somewhat disenchanted with NRCA. In a written communication, I think it was to Joe Penfold (it's in the documentation that I've examined), he made these claims. *

*Thomas H. Langlois to J.W. Penfold, 8 February 1963, NRCA Papers, Box 7, Forest History Society. For a copy of this correspondence, See Appendix C, pp. 141-43.

He said that the NRCA was biased in favor of federal authorities over state, that the NRCA requested and then ignored reports made by the scientific member groups of the Council, and that NRCA was a front for the action groups who used the scientific groups for their own purposes. What do you think of those charges? You were quite active in the NRCA at the time Dr. Langlois wrote to Penfold.

CRG: Well, I knew Tom very well and held him in high regard. The same was true, as I told you, of Mrs. Langlois. Anyway, I do not understand Tom's attitude about the Council being a front for the action organizations and that they were using the scientific societies for their own purposes. Yes, the action organizations were conservation action organizations. That was and is their purpose, and, as I have said before, they were trying to get the scientific societies to help attain our conservation aims, but there was nothing selfish about that. The action organizations would get going on a battle in the public interest, and then would find that they needed additional information or more details.

I guess we will have to pick a hypothetical case as an illustration in order to get this idea across. For instance, suppose a bill is introduced in the Congress to build a dam that is going to flood an area and is going to destroy a great many important natural resource values. And, further suppose, that the Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation has gone ahead and promoted the project and sold the idea locally before we conservationists knew anything about the scheme. In many such cases, those agencies had their plans completed and were requesting congressional approval and appropriations before the conservation organizations ever heard of the project or had seen the preliminary reports. The government agencies frequently have gone into local areas and sold the local residents on a large pork-barrel construction project under the guise of tremendous dollar expenditures in the area, while in reality it might be extremely detrimental to the community in irreparable natural resource losses.

Now then, when that sort of thing happens, the conservation organizations must have some basis for starting opposition. And how can they do it without facts? Most of them do not have the money; they are poor organizations and do not have the help because they are under-staffed and cannot get the necessary information. How do they get the facts or find out what to do to build up public opposition to such a program? There have been innumerable cases that I have known like that, and we in the Council were determined

to get the members of some of the scientific societies to join with us in helping make studies of such projects and give the information to the Council. It always was my understanding that the Council would then, if it ever got the dope, make it available to all of the members.

In any event, the concept was and is excellent. But how do you get it done? When we tried to get Tom Langlois and the others to help us implement that kind of a program, maybe we did not put it just right, did not get the idea across properly. But Dr. Langlois had no reason to think that we were trying to use them. On the other hand, I wish I had known of his attitude then, since if he and the others wanted to classify this as using them, I would have liked to have told scientists that we definitely were using them to help conservation.

ERM: I'm posing the question, but not as a complaint.

CRG: I understand. When Tom said that we were pro-federal, I think that was wrong. We were merely working with the federal agencies in support of good programs, but I do not think that anyone could ever rightfully say that I was either pro- or anti-federal. That would depend entirely upon circumstances; in some cases maybe I was very much pro-federal, and in others, perhaps I was extremely anti-. I do not know, it just depends on what the hell was striking Tom's fancy at that particular time. He was for the most part anti-federal.

ERM: I suppose in a society such as ours which is aggressive, active conservation organizations such as you represented see themselves to some extent at least as fire fighters.

CRG: That is right in a great many instances.

ERM: You see yourselves constantly chasing fires and putting them out. Is that right?

CRG: Well, there can be no question about that being right in many cases.

ERM: On the other hand, the scientific societies which you were seeking to associate yourselves with were concerned with scholarly original research, were they not?

CRG: Basically.

ERM: Looking at things from their point of view, when they came into participation with you in a consortium of interested organizations, perhaps their hopes were along different lines, those which would provide them larger opportunities to study fundamental conservation needs through research. You, on the other hand, might have thought of their participation in terms of how they could be helpful to you in the fire fighting role. Perhaps they looked upon the use of your muscle as being applied only in dire situations where you wrestled together thirty-five thousand dollars to meet what you saw as a crisis. I suspect the scientific groups would have preferred having an ongoing program in which the Council kept pecking away at basic research which they, as scientists, felt that they were in a position to perform.

CRG: Well, that was not quite so, since all of our projects did not require help. Every one of our activities was different, and in many cases we were supporting important management or improvement programs as well as research. Our need for additional information sometimes was to support requests for funds to finance continuing programs of federal research which would be of mutual benefit. In any event, the only thing that I can say is that this was one of the two motivating factors or principal objectives of the Council. The other was to create a forum or clearinghouse. Let me repeat again, the Council never was to be a policy forming or action organization.

ERM: Primarily a place where you could come and exchange ideas?

CRG: That is precisely right. The principal function was to provide a place for discussion of major issues and furnish some service to the members. We started first with the Conservation News Service, which later became the Legislative News Service and the Executive News Service. This was to secure information on both legislative and executive actions of the government and make it available in a straightforward reporting procedure to all member organizations. The minute that we got into editorializing in those releases, we got into trouble, and the minute that we got into trouble we would have a meeting and get into a brief ruckus over whose ox was gored. Fortunately, all those editorial problems ended years ago.

I believe the main reason we wanted the scientific societies to become members of the Council was to have them take part in the discussions of major problems and issues. It was not merely to have them furnish useful information. The aim of the NRCA was to enable the member organizations, including the scientific groups,

to have better information. We hoped Council discussion would help inject correctness, competence, and more scholarly intelligence into the activities of the action organizations that often are in opposition to extravagant, ill-conceived, and ill-advised governmental projects and programs. I could cite many good examples, but I do not wish to do it off-the-cuff.

POPULAR PRESS REPORTING ON CONSERVATION VS. PRESERVATION ISSUES

CRG: Then again, we always have needed better teamwork. In still other kinds of cases, the national conservation organizations really need closer cooperation and more uniformity in their actions. For example, if the Defenders of Wildlife are going to support the views of Steve Seator as put forth in yesterday's Washington Post, then the conservation forces are bound to be divided. * This is the kind of thing that we had hoped to overcome. Such statements confuse the public and tend to mislead the average citizen. Mr. Seator is a trained biologist, but obviously lacks practical experience. Maybe some people do not like having all of the wildlife management programs in this country financed entirely by the sportsmen, but that is the way it always has been from the very beginning. The hunters and fishermen are providing more than two hundred million dollars a year under our present system to protect and manage our wildlife resources, and, until we find a better way of funding that work, we better let the license-revenue system alone. We dare not turn this wildlife management responsibility over to the federal government until there is positive assurance of adequate perpetual financing. The federal government has about fifty or sixty game management agents, and every state has nearly twice that many. We have around six or seven thousand state conservation officers enforcing the fish and game laws of this country, and you cannot chuck that elaborate enforcement program overboard and hand the job to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, which has only a few agents to cover the entire country.

So you see, here is a young unguided fellow, Seator, who is not thinking beyond the end of his nose. He does not understand or fully comprehend the state programs at all. If he did, he would not be advocating an upset of state control until we at least had something better to offer.

ERM: What is the necessary response then to that kind of a public statement?

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CRG: There really is no immediate answer to it, because Steve and another fellow have been able to get a few of that kind of stories in the Washington Post. You never could get that newspaper to use a practical, down-to-earth article.

I am not interested in getting into a dispute with these young men. That other chap named Lewis Regenstein, who is with another outfit, has been writing glamour articles under the philosophy that the way to build up his own organization is to tear down somebody else's. His news outlet is the Washington Post, which I think is one of the most stinking sheets in this country. Unfortunately, it is the only morning paper in the nation's capitol and it has spoiled my breakfast every day for the past quarter-century. I think it is a lousy newspaper, and that probably is why these articles are accepted and usually run on the editorial page. You could submit a dozen letters or articles giving the other side of the picture and not get a single one of them in the Post.

We have several large newspapers and a number of news organizations in the East which are on the so-called preservationist binge, including the Post, particularly the editorial page, which displays no interest in anything except spectator sports. Those on the staff never have had a gun in their hands, nor gone fishing in their lives. They do not manifest any interest in participating sports. The ultra-preservationists have a real "in" with some of the large metropolitan papers like the Post, which never carry any stories or pictures that depict the game management side. They regularly portray the protectionist concepts, and that is what they are teaching the people in this area, including the members of Congress, since they too have to read these newspapers or nothing.

Now, I wish that you or somebody else would prove me wrong by getting the Washington Post to use the other kind of a story. I have not tried, and am not going to, but I do know others that have, and their letters and articles never were used. Conversely, every week some kind of article featuring, or slanted toward the preservationist side, or against proper utilization, is used; but never anything in favor of the sound management of our resources.

ERM: Is that true of the New York Times?

CRG: It is pretty much true. I thought that when John B. Oakes was made chief of the editorial page of the Times that things would change, but they are about the same. I have known John for many years and in the early days I helped to get him appointed to a

couple of advisory committees. One for the National Park Service years ago should have won him over to our side of sensible wildlife management, but I have given up on that too, because most of their editorials are on the ultra-preservationist side. I am talking primarily about the editorial page; maybe the regular news is not quite as bad. I do not read the Times regularly so I am not a good judge of the entire paper.

To me, there is no way to combat those large newspapers, and I do not think there is a way to offset that press bias. Furthermore, there is no way to respond to the anti-hunting and anti-killing tirades of people like Alice Herrington of Friends of Animals in those newspapers. She is one of their advertisers, with her regular fund-raising blurbs.

If there is an exception, it is the outdoor magazines. According to an article that appeared in Field and Stream a few months ago, I saw that about three hundred and forty thousand dollars of the money that she raised to protect wildlife last year went to spay cats. * Well now, we probably have far too many cats in this country, the same as too many dogs, both of which are a tremendous luxury because of the food they consume and all that, but on the other hand they bring a fantastic business when you look at the shelves of pet food in the supermarkets.

ERM: They also bring tremendous pleasure to their owners.

CRG: That is right, but what disturbs me about Alice Herrington is to see her raising lots of money under a plea that we ought to stop the killing of hair seals on those Canadian islands, and other wildlife, and then uses the funds for other purposes. She is on all sides of the ultra-preservationist, stop-killing-wildlife binge, and she is against the use of traps and any other form of harvest of our renewable wildlife resources. One wonders whether she eats and makes any kind of use of our renewable domestic farm animals.

The joker of this is, if such things can be funny, instead of her spending the money for the purposes she portrays in the newspaper ads, and in the articles she writes, those tax-exempt public contributions are used for spaying cats.

*Editorial, Field and Stream 77, no. 9 (January 1973): 4.

Another of the preservationist leaders that I might mention is Cleveland Amory. He was formerly involved in the Humane Society of the United States and made quite a name for himself in supporting all of the ultra-ultra-preservationist concepts and philosophy, until he became president of the new organization he formed, Fund for Animals, which is the one Lewis Regenstein runs.

- ERM: That's a characteristic of democracy isn't it? Eccentricity and rather far-out organizations always seem to flourish in that situation. It's true in England, too, isn't it?
- CRG: Yes. They have their share of way-out organizations over there, too.
- ERM: But isn't it true that esoteric groups and eccentric people take extreme views in many areas of society?
- CRG: This seems to be so, and certainly the forming of organizations is an American trait. We have new conservation and environmental organizations by the dozens, really by the hundreds. I just wonder how long they will last and how long the public will continue to finance them.
- ERM: I would imagine the mortality on such organizations is high.
- CRG: You would think so, but some of them have been going quite long and seem to hang on in one way or another. The bunch involved with environmental defense that has sprung up in this country is unbelievable, as are the newspapers and magazines they put out. I do not know how long some of those new periodicals will last, and what amazes me is how anyone can find time to read them. The publication that the Environmental Defense Fund puts out is in newspaper style and it goes on and on for pages. Many of the articles in some of these publications are inaccurate, and while I will not say they are ill-conceived, they are simply overly dramatic and emotional.
- ERM: Is it your view that they don't set very high editorial standards?
- CRG: That is right, but again what concerns me is that they do flourish.

Michael Frome

ERM: I would like to hear your opinion of the relatively recent controversy of a year or so ago in which the American Forestry Association took some lumps through the Wilderness Society magazine, the Living Wilderness, in that expose by Michael Frome. * What reaction did you have to all of that?

CRG: Well, in the first place I told Stewart M. Brandborg when he ran those letters in his magazine, "I am sorry now that you have my payment already for a life membership, because if I was an annual member you would get my resignation right now due to that dirty trick." I thought that they pulled the lowest form of something when one old national conservation organization sees fit to air the linens and skeletons in the closet of a brother organization. Things like that are deplorable, and I believe that it was typical of some of the things that have been happening in recent years that have disturbed me. When one rugged individualist who is head of one conservation organization places himself or his own organization above all others, it is not good. All such things are quite obviously done for personal dramatic reasons, or for selfish membership or fund-raising reasons. The perpetrators are either trying to stir things up to get people to join them or to feather their own nests. I do not know which in this instance.

Forest Conservation Society of America, 1953

CRG: Talking about the American Forestry Association, I well remember back fifteen years or more ago when Anthony Wayne Smith tried to force the AFA to change its method of election of directors primarily because he wanted to be on its board. He may give other reasons now, but I recall that he too wrote a number of articles or letters and made them publish them in American Forests, and when he did not succeed in his efforts, he formed a new competitive organization.

*Editors, "The Strange Case of Michael Frome," Living Wilderness 35, no. 115 (Autumn 1971): 22.

I was present at Mrs. Gifford Pinchot's home on the evening that he brought all of the bigwigs in Washington together for a meeting, everyone from Associate Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court down to me. There must have been about eighty on hand, including all of the prominent foresters, when Smith formed the Forest Conservation Society, or a name something like that.

The record must show that I protested the proposal vigorously. I well remember standing up in the huge living room of the home of Mrs. Pinchot and making an impassioned speech against it, and so did Henry Clepper. My speech was to the effect that if there is a real need for another forestry association in this country, I am all for it, but if this proposal here this evening is merely for the purpose of tearing down and wrecking one of the oldest forestry organizations in this country, I am against it. The one and only argument that I ever had with my boss, Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, who was the president and I the vice-president of the Wildlife Management Institute, was over this new organization.

I had planned to leave the meeting at ten o'clock to get the night train to New York City. That was before the days of the airplane shuttles, and I had to be up there for a meeting in the morning. This meant taking the night sleeper if I wanted to stay at Tony's meeting, which I did. I remained until 10:30 P.M. and grabbed a cab to the Union Station. After I left, Tony of all things, elected Dr. Gabrielson to the new board, which made me most unhappy.

ERM: Dr. Gabrielson was present at the meeting?

CRG: Yes, he was, and being provoked, it took me several months to get Dr. Gabe to resign; but he finally did. He did not see anything wrong with his being on that board, but I did. I was very much opposed to it. Anyway, that new organization died a-borning. It went for about a year or so. A number of prominent forestry people joined during that time, and it brought some strangers and new individuals into the limelight that I had not known before. Nevertheless, the new organization died.

ERM: What was their contention, that the AFA was dominated by industry?

CRG: That was the big pitch, the same one that Mike Frome was using. Now, I will not fault Mike Frome particularly. He is a free-lance writer and is making his living writing feature stories. More than that, he, like many others, is trying to make a name for himself,

and how do you do that except by writing dramatic articles? If you are that kind of an outdoor writer, and we have lots of them who are willing to create issues to sell articles, that is what you must expect.

James B. Craig

CRG: The phase of this latest Frome ruckus that disturbed me was the involvement of the editor of American Forests. Before going further, let me say that the editor, James B. Craig, and I have been good friends for many years. He and I are members of the Steering Committee of the National Watershed Congress and have worked together for years. I am one of the founders of the Congress and served as its chairman for a long time. Incidentally, we just staged the twentieth Congress this year. Jim is a good editor; I like him, and I think that American Forests is an excellent publication. (I wanted to say all that first.) Even so, the AFA is one of the older and better national organizations, and the person in charge is William E. Towell, the executive vice-president. If an assistant of mine, a person on my staff had written the things Jim did, and turned loose the letters he did, I am afraid he would not have gotten off as easy.

ERM: Jim didn't release the letters. A secretary did.

CRG: Maybe so, I hope she was fired.

ERM: She did get fired.

CRG: If Jim was not to blame, perhaps I will have to take back what I said, but it occurs to me that such things do not just happen.

ERM: You mean leaks of this kind?

CRG: That is right. I really do not think it was quite that simple. That back and forth went on and on. I mean it was not just one incident of where a secretary handed out something and that ended it. That ruckus went on for considerable time, and the bickering continued. The point I want to make, and I am not taking sides on this at all, but since we're recording history, I am expressing my views. I

wish to repeat, since you ask me for my opinion toward these things, that I denounce what Tony Smith did in trying to upset the AFA, and that some of the things that Jim did seemed to reflect considerable manifestation of insubordination in the organization. If I had been in Bill Towell's place, it would have ended differently.

ERM: You demand loyalty.

CRG: That is right. I have five field men in the Wildlife Management Institute who are still there today, and not a one of them has been with the WMI under fifteen years, and some as much as twenty-five years. Daniel A. Poole and Laurence R. Jahn worked for me for about fifteen years, and they now are the president and vice-president respectively. All of my staff were loyal and dedicated. I never had any trouble like that, and when I see signs of disloyalty and internal friction, it disturbs me. This should not exist in any organization and it certainly is not good for any program.

Time solves many things. Bill Towell, who is a very competent administrator, has survived that unfortunate incident. Jim Craig also has gone ahead and is doing a good job. It is hoped that everything is back to normal, without any aftereffects.

ERM: Have you noticed any change in the editorial policy of American Forests since then?

CRG: Not really. I still get the magazine and it is one of the better publications. The AFA made me an honorary member for life and gave me its top award, so I continue to be one of its most staunch supporters.

ERM: I agree, American Forests is a good magazine.

CRG: There is no question about that, it is one of the best.

ERM: It is well edited and illustrated.

CRG: Yes, and Jim Craig has written several nice articles about me and has publicized things that I have done. I have been given a number of awards and he has written up several of them. Both Jim and Bill Towell are good friends and I respect them highly. That is why any such happenings like we have discussed worry me no end.

ERM: Has there always been a certain amount of internecine warfare going on within the ranks of conservation?

CRG: Oh sure, it probably exists in every large organization.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Grants-in-aid program

CRG: I am president of one of the largest membership organizations in the conservation field, the National Rifle Association of America. The NRA is one hundred two years old this year. We have over a million dues paying members. We have one hundred fifty thousand life members, and nine thousand five hundred sixty clubs across the country. We have a great program. In a recent survey of the membership, we found 13 1/2 percent are competitive shooters and the remainder are interested in conservation, the outdoors, hunting and fishing, and all of our environmental problems.

The main reason that I am over here in the NRA, I guess, is because I think that this great organization should be doing much more to promote wildlife conservation. We now have a new Hunting and Conservation Division and we are putting out a number of excellent educational publications. I am working to get some significant changes made in many aspects of the wildlife conservation and management program. I succeeded in getting a grants-in-aid program initiated, and we now are issuing grants for wildlife research to graduate students in the colleges and universities across the country.

You will be interested to know that the American Forest Institute also has been making funds available to us to augment our grants-in-aid program. In other words, when we are scanning the horizon in the field of wildlife research to locate good projects for the issuing of grants, the AFI have said, "Here is ten thousand dollars from us to do more of such research and student training." We are taking care of the administrative work cooperatively, I guess you can say.

ERM: Let me ask you something; I'm very anxious to get some research fellowships started in universities with which I work very closely and why not some fellowships that probe seriously the historical roots of some of our basic conservation problems? Would such studies qualify under your program?

CRG: Well, we are doing all kinds of things now. I would hope, as I told Clifford Morrow again the other day, when you met him, that in his new division he should be able to find some more good forestry projects or forestry-oriented studies to sponsor, particularly with the money from the American Forest Institute. That would help to broaden the program as should be done.

We have a large board of directors in the NRA. We have seventy-five directors and an executive council, which is composed of the past presidents. They are customarily elected to the executive council for life. So, in addition to the board, we have the council, which has a voice but no vote. This makes nearly ninety people who comprise our governing body. All this means that if we are going to continue to get the money appropriated for this kind of conservation work, we first must interest these people in what we are doing. The same is true of the forestry people; if we are going to continue to get money from them for grants, we must keep them interested in the program. So we all have a big job in this regard.

ERM: If the National Rifle Association were to come to the Forest History Society and said, "We will help you get some basic studies done on forestry in conservation history," do you then think it possible to get matching funds from the AFI to assist in that work?

CRG: This is exactly what we are doing and all I can say to you is come aboard, because in the wildlife management field I have been issuing scholarships, fellowships, and research grants like this for nearly thirty years. In addition to that, I believe that I mentioned earlier, we in the American Wildlife Institute helped start the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit program in 1935 that now is operating in eighteen of the land-grant colleges across the country. The Wildlife Management Institute continued to co-sponsor the Units when it took over the business affairs of the AWI. What we have in the Unit Program are graduate-level grants. The undergraduate work is done by the university. When students want to go into graduate studies for either a master's or doctor's degree, that is when the Units come into the picture.

We have been doing this all these years in the WMI, and when I became active in the NRA several years ago, I said, "We should be doing something like that to manifest our interest in wildlife research and management," which we did, and I was the chairman of the Grants Committee until I was elected president.

ERM: How large are the individual fellowships in this case?

CRG: Well, I suggested in the beginning that we should not consider issuing any grants for more than thirty-five hundred dollars. The only reason was that I wanted to spread the money around as far as possible and make a good showing, but we have been trying to keep the various grants at less than that. The more studies we can get started, the more chances we have of getting work done and the more chance we have of convincing our board and the public that we are doing beneficial and productive work.

ERM: If I were to present you with several suggested topics that might be pursued effectively through my acquaintances in the colleges and universities, would they be considered?

CRG: Yes. We would like to know of any subjects or graduate students that you could recommend in our related fields. In other words, this does not have to depend upon the applicants or studies that you may know of now. Before you leave here I will give you a supply of forms that can be used. We have regular application blanks. These make it easy for the students to outline briefly the nature of the studies they are proposing to undertake; how much it will cost; how long it will take; and so on. That is, whether the study can be done in one year or if it will take longer.

We will not commit ourselves for a second year, but we would, of course, try to continue to finance any and all projects that we start. Everyone operates on an annual budget, and we dare not commit money for a second year when next year's budget has not even been prepared.

ERM: The graduate programs generally run two or three years.

CRG: That is right, and a number of the studies we have started have been financed for two or three years, but we still must operate on an annual basis. We start all grants with the definite understanding that if everything goes well we will continue as planned, except that it must be with this understanding and agreement.

ERM: Are you the person through which all this goes to the board? Do you review all applications or does somebody else?

CRG: As I mentioned earlier, until I was elected president of the NRA last April, I was the chairman of the Grants-in-Aid Committee which passed on all applications. It is a small autonomous committee

that has full authority to act. I appointed Robert S. Lichtenberger of Pennsylvania, another NRA director, to replace me as chairman, and put William E. Towell of the AFA on the committee to fill my vacancy. He is a nonboard member, but that is permissible. As you know, as the president I have the appointing power of this organization, so I appoint all NRA committees. This is no small job; we have twenty-four committees, and one hundred eighty-five committee members.

When the applications come in they are routed to Clifford Morrow, the head of the Hunting and Conservation Division, because this program is handled in his division. Then at periodic intervals the chairman calls the committee together to consider all the applications and it is authorized to determine which of the applications are to be funded and for how much, and so on.

ERM: Does Morrow sift out obviously ineligible applications for aid?

CRG: I doubt that he would actually sift them out because all of the applications would go to all of the committee members with his recommendations for their review and consideration.

ERM: How many applications have you been receiving each year?

CRG: Oh, twenty-five or thirty, I suppose, on an average. Of course, the program is only about five years old and still is not too well known.

ERM: And how many grants do you issue?

CRG: Maybe a dozen or fifteen.

ERM: That's a good number. Have you published many of the results of the work that has come from the program?

CRG: The reports on the results of these studies are published as the theses of the graduate students for either their master's or doctor's degrees. The colleges and universities usually make the manuscripts available through established channels. However, at the last annual meeting of the NRA in Washington in April, we had four of the students give oral reports on their projects in a special Conservation Forum that was open to the public. All of them gave commendable reports on their work and this proved to be one of the most successful meetings that we have had in a long time. Everyone that went to the meeting thoroughly enjoyed the presentations

and floor discussions. All of the students were regarded as truly outstanding biologists, and I was highly pleased with the whole thing.

ERM: I don't think you could spend the Association's money more properly.

CRG: I agree, and this was one of the best ways that we could convince the NRA directors and the public of the value of this exceedingly important grants program.

ERM: The dividends that come back from that kind of thing go on for a long time.

CRG: Of course, what I have been trying to do, and the main reason I am devoting my time to the NRA is, hopefully, to change the whole image of the organization. This will take an awful lot of doing.

Firearms controls

CRG: During lunch today you could see as we talked with Mr. Louis F. Lucas, the vice-president for finance, that despite what the newspapers and politicians say, the NRA always has stood for sound sensible firearms controls. We have been urging mandatory penalties for the misuse of firearms in the commission of crimes. We have been in the forefront in trying to get the Congress to draft good legislation that actually is needed, but the trouble is the law books of this country are filled with statutes that are not being enforced. Criminals are turned loose as fast today as they are apprehended. We want strict enforcement of the laws that already are on the books. Adding more laws that are respected by only the law-abiding citizens will not change the situation.

We have a serious crime problem in this country, not a firearms problem. That is our position. What we need is strict enforcement of existing laws before we talk about imposing further restrictions on the good guys. Take the District of Columbia as a typical example. I, as a resident, must have a license to have firearms, and all of my guns are registered. I had to be finger-printed and photographed to comply with the detailed regulations. I had to fill

out a complicated form for each gun and record the description and serial number. In other words, I have done everything that possibly could be done in regard to my guns, including the payment of a license fee and a separate registration fee on each firearm. Yes, my firearms are registered, and the fees paid; yet, according to the police, 85 percent of all the guns in the District are not registered. What good is it to impose more laws on the lawful citizens when the crooks and criminals do as they please?

It has been virtually impossible for the NRA to get its position across. The newspapers say little about the lack of enforcement of existing laws or about the fact that well over half of the criminals caught are repeat violators out on bail. Still there are constant editorials and feature stories in the daily papers calling for more firearms laws.

Let me reiterate that a high percentage of all the felons are turned loose as fast as they are apprehended. As I mentioned over lunch, the holdup man that shot one person in a District bank had already been let out on bail four different times without prosecution prior to the shooting. Senator John C. Stennis also was shot by released thugs with criminal records.

ERM: They will have to face trial, of course?

CRG: Well, there is a good chance that they will be turned loose. I am not sure about all the circumstances but I believe that one had been paroled. I think he had pleaded guilty, incarcerated for awhile, and released not very long before the shooting.

ERM: So soon? And that happened only a very short time ago?

CRG: A short time ago is right. The fact of the matter is the Senator has not fully recovered yet, and I believe that at least one of his assailants already has been released. I am not able to keep track of all of the details, but the crime problem is serious due mainly to our social and law enforcement breakdown.

Perhaps I have been foolish to take on this large job in the NRA, but again I think that there is a great possibility that I can get this one million-member organization to become one of the leading national conservation organizations in this country. Great strides have been made so far.

Incidentally, the NRA has been a member of the NRCA almost from the beginning. The executive vice-president, Major General Maxwell E. Rich, was recently elected a member of the executive committee of the NRCA. I believe that he will take an active part in the affairs of the Council.

ERM: Have you been a member of the NRA for a long time?

CRG: Oh, I have been a member of the NRA for forty years, I guess, maybe longer. I have been a life member for twenty-five years and have been on the board of directors for eight or ten years. I served two years as the first vice-president.

ERM: When do you find time to do anything else but go to board meetings, convention meetings, conferences, and council meetings?

CRG: All of these many jobs in the different organizations do occupy me full-time, but I like it and hope to die with my boots on.

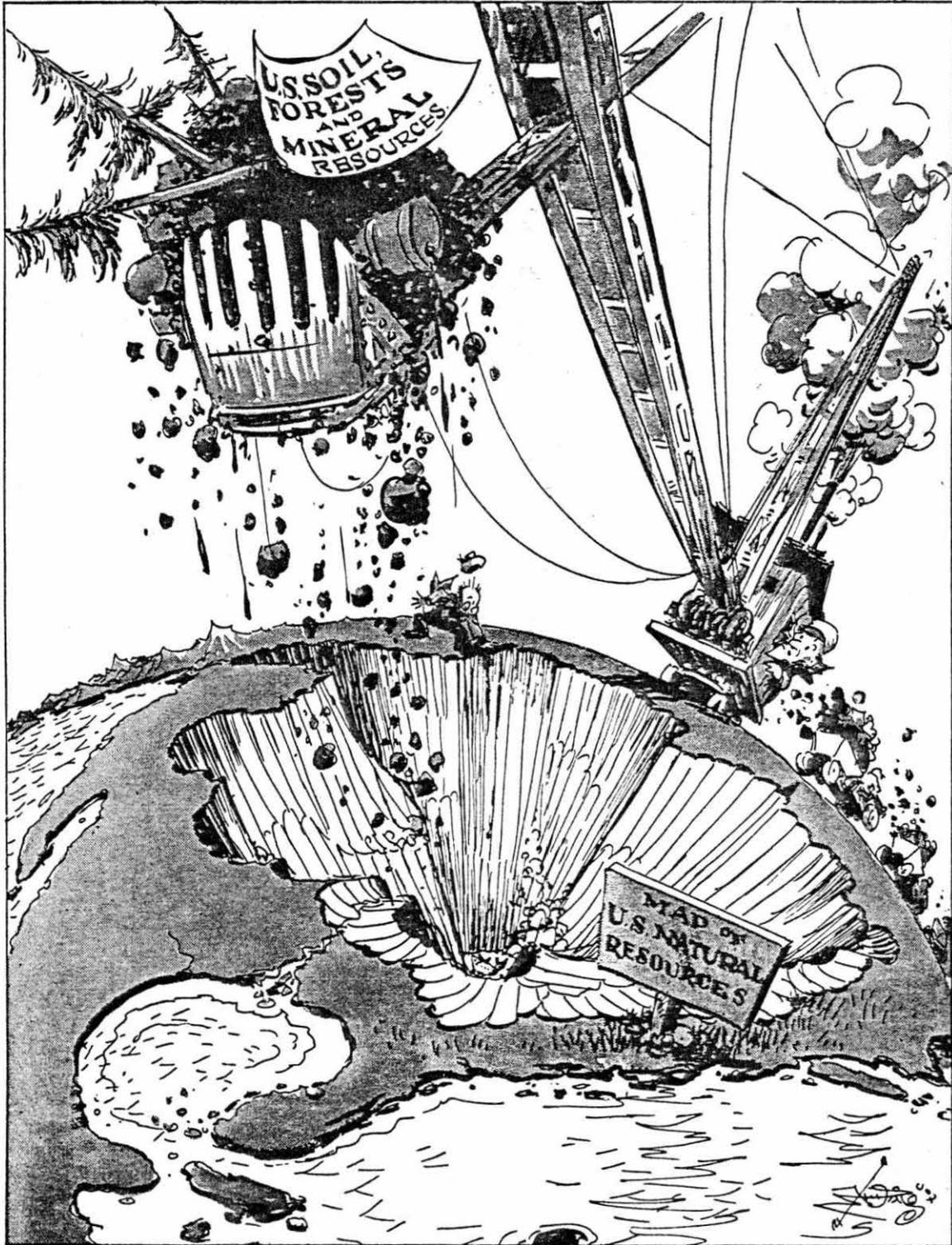
APPENDIX A

PART I.

WHY

PART I.

200 YEARS OF EXPLOITATION CLIMAXED BY TWO WORLD WARS
HAVE LEFT QUITE A HOLE



Part I.

PRELUDE TO A NATIONAL SERVICE

— WHY —

Any nation is rich only so long as its supply of resources is greater than the needs of its people. After that, no nation is self-supporting. Somewhere between those two extremes lies America and its problem of future well-being.

It is high time we snapped out of our delusion that the people of this country can go on forever using up our soils, forests and waters, without eventually coming to the bottom of the barrel.

No, we are not there yet, but can any thoughtful person say, with 80% of our original virgin forests gone, much of our tillable soil exhausted or washed away by erosion, our subsoil water table falling rapidly and our mineral resources depleted by 100 years of industrial exploitation, climaxed by two world wars, that we have not diminished our "camel's hump," which must last us for a very long and hard journey?

Of these essentials to our national economic existence the public is generally unaware, in spite of the close bearing on their lives. Few people are able to distinguish between exploitation and conservation.

The legislative hopper is filled with tremendously costly post-war projects to take up the slack when hostilities cease. Most of

the projects—if not all of them—are intimately related to our natural resources.

Billions of public funds are to be spent. Public officials with their ears to the ground to learn the wishes of their constituents will hear only the clamor for more and better exploitation unless the press, the people and government executives are provided with a reliable, unbiased and comprehensive analysis of the various programs and projects proposed and their consequences to natural resources.

People want to be effective. Lacking accurate information and confused by conflicting promotional statements too often warped by political propaganda, the best of citizens remain silent.

Expert analysts and scientific interpreters can help solve the dilemmas which lurk in most of the public minds and point the way to effective action.

The object of this Prospectus is to show why such a service is needed in Part I, How it may be accomplished in Part II, and a tentative budget schedule in Part III.

It is generally recognized that we will emerge from this war with one major competitor in the international field: Russia; Russia with her enormous storehouse of mineral resources practically untouched, the surface of her soil hardly scratched and her Siberian forests intact.

We will be forced to meet that competition with oil wells heavily drained in the prodigious emergency of war. From our iron and coal mines we have armed not only ourselves but very largely

our three major allies, in a war of mechanized steel. Ships made from United States steel have floated allied armies, munitions and supplies around the world and back. We have cut deeply into our small remnant of virgin forest timber and from our soils we have fed half the war-torn world, but not without depleting the fertility of our tillable land and lessening its future productivity. With what remains we must meet the challenge of Russia in the markets of the world.

If we fail, not only our economic supremacy will fall but our form of government will be discredited. We have dug deeply into our resources in a great cause. How much have we left? To continue in ignorance of the basic factors of future production and trade is to invite national disaster. If there is doubt as to the truth of this prophecy *there is at least sufficient evidence to justify the effort to inform ourselves* as to the accuracy or inaccuracy, whichever it may be. To date there is no service of comprehensive information on the subject.

This much is obvious:—we cannot go on feeding an ever-increasing population on less and less tillable soil, nor can we forever increase industrial production out of an ever-decreasing supply of raw materials. Before that day comes, when the descending scale of supplies and the rising index of population meet and cross each other, we should face the problem frankly and either apply conservation seriously or resign ourselves to the inevitable consequences of a greatly lowered standard of living.

Buried in the dust and rubble of ages along the ancient migration lanes of earlier civilizations are crumbling palaces of kings

and buried cities which once housed thriving populations, convincing evidence that those desert lands were once sufficiently productive to maintain prosperous communities. Fabled lands "flowing with milk and honey," the valleys of the Ganges and Euphrates, Arabia, Persia and Babylon were not always the deserted wastes they are today, inhabited only by struggling remnants of the former hordes searching an exhausted land for sustenance for their flocks and a meager livelihood for themselves.

Is it just a coincidence that those once rich lands where civilization has lived the longest are all now deserts and unable to support a one-thousandth part of their former populations, or is there a lesson which we have overlooked hidden in crumbling ruins, worn-out soils and sparse vegetation?

Could it be that our own falling water table, dried up springs, man-made dust bowls and abandoned cattle ranges are the early symptoms of the same blight which turned the ancient garden spots into deserts? The scientists who have read the hieroglyphics written in the sands of time say it is not a coincidence but an invariable rule. Other scientists, seeking a formula by which we may avoid such a future, have given us assurance that *taken in time* soils, vegetation and subsoil water tables can be made to persist indefinitely and yield a balanced production of life's necessities. We persist in doing just the opposite.

When our forefathers moved to this rich continent our family was small. Since then it has grown tremendously and while there has always seemed enough for all there have been times when some found no place at the table. For the most part these were ex-

farmers from worn-out lands. Many were lumberjacks and saw-mill workers forced into idleness when the forests were gone. Some were from exhausted fisheries and all were, directly or indirectly, victims of exhausted natural resources. If you don't think so, you would find the proof of it interesting.

When soil and vegetation are gone, man goes also, and industry loses a market.

The soil conservation experts have cried from the housetops that we lose more good plant food with the topsoil that is eroded and washed down our rivers each year than we transform into crops. It may look like nothing but mud to you as it swirls down our silt-laden streams, but it is just so much potential beefsteak and potatoes, roast duck, ham and eggs and bread and butter with jam on it, for soil is the stuff our food supplies are made from.

Between erosion and bad farming, one-half of our original tillable topsoil has now been seriously depleted or lost. To have thus diminished the source of potential production of our groceries seems inevitably to have some bearing on our future.

With reckless abandon we continue to assume that our resources are unaffected by the years, and are inexhaustible. By further exploitation we now propose not only to guarantee abundant nourishment to all the members of our own family but have invited the hungry, war-torn world in to share our plenty. It is a fine idea if we can do it but it might be wise to look at our pantry shelves and count our food coupons. Any good housewife would do as much.

How can we eat our cake and have it too? The answer is to manage our soils, our remaining forests and other gifts of nature on a perpetual yield basis instead of having one big harvest and after that—poverty.

That is the lesson which conservationists are trying to drive home to the people of this continent before it is too late. The rich topsoils, the sparkling waters and rich growth of vegetation, together with its minerals and wildlife, which made this continent the richest prize in the history of civilization are *not inexhaustible*, in spite of our common habit of thinking so.

If any one of the three is exhausted by wasteful practices and slothful mismanagement our American continent will be broken out with an economic rash which no sociological or political salve can cure. Then America will not only be unable to "feed the world" but by its own standards of living will be unable to feed itself. When that day comes, if it is not here already, *economic depressions, revolutionary uprisings* and *internal discontent* will follow as night follows day, just as these same symptoms have marked the decline of every center of civilization since the beginning of history.

Many of the tragedies which have come upon portions of our population during the recent heart-breaking years of depression were the direct results of disregard or ignorance of the simplest conservation principles.

It seems strange that we are not more concerned over this inevitable prospect, especially in the recent years of horrors when we see the cumulative results of world-wide surplus populations seeking to extricate themselves from the pinch of worn-out soils

and shrunken resources by wholesale indulgence in mass murder and international burglary.

Research scientists have gone a long way toward providing the formulas by which the principles of conservation can be applied to maintain a perpetual yield without destroying the source. Forests can be profitably managed and continuously harvested on a sustained yield program. Erosion control and contour plowing can, with intelligent soil management, maintain fertility and keep our soils on the uplands instead of causing them to be washed away and ruin our rivers. Our rapidly waning food fish resources could be restored and made to produce perpetually. They are diminishing with alarming rapidity and only by increased efficiency in exploitation is the market supplied.

We have services of information on nearly every phase of our economic and social trends but none on natural resources. They constitute the basis of all our wealth.

Such a service is badly needed for the benefit of—

National Economy
Industrial Security
World Trade Competition
Food Resources
Legislative and Executive Action
Fish and Wildlife
Recreation

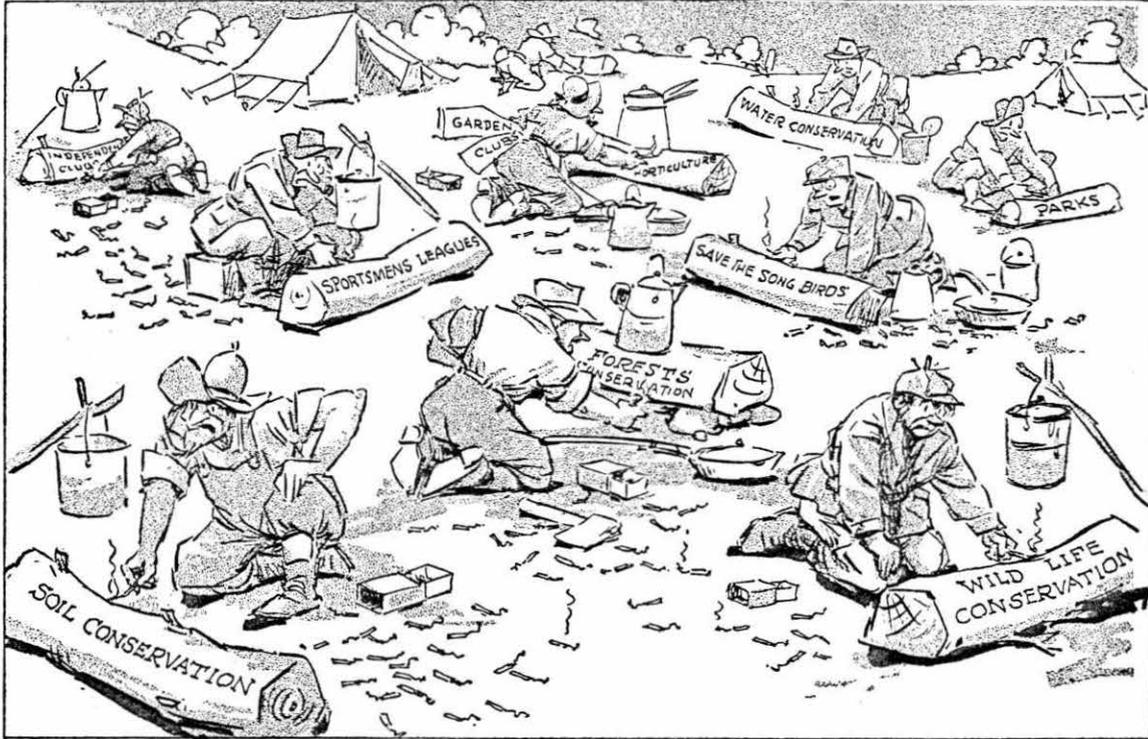
PART II.

HOW

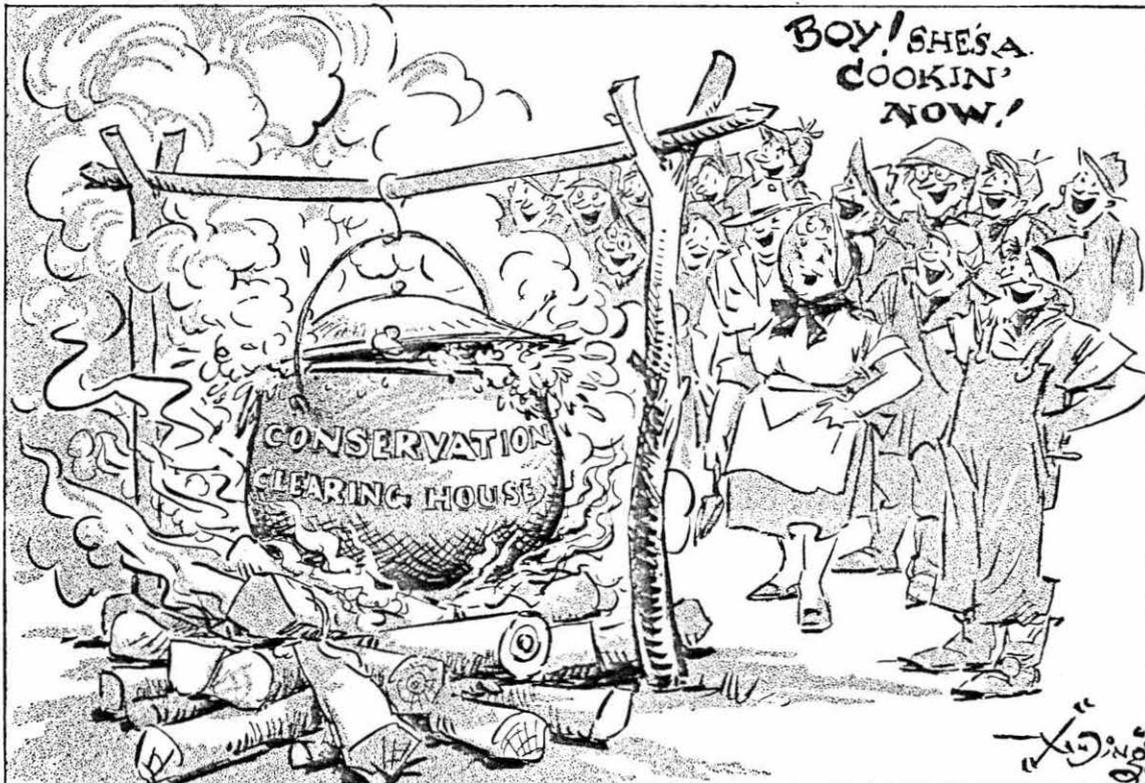
PART II.

A CLEARING HOUSE FOR CONSERVATION AND COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE OF INFORMATION ON NATURAL RESOURCES

IT IS HARD TO START A FIRE WITH JUST ONE LONE STICK OF WOOD



But Putting All the Wood Together Will Make a Hot Fire



Part II.
THE IDEA

THE IDEA

A CLEARING HOUSE FOR CONSERVATION THROUGH WHICH ALL THE VARIOUS BRANCHES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF CONSERVATION MIGHT BE COORDINATED, PROJECTS ANALYZED AND INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED, IS COMMONLY ACCEPTED AS THE GREATEST NEED IN OUR NATIONAL EFFORT TO CONSERVE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

WHEN OUR NATURAL RESOURCES ARE GONE, AMERICA AS WE HAVE KNOWN IT WILL BE GONE.

THE PRINCIPLES OF CONSERVATION ARE KNOWN AND HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATED. APPLICATION OF THOSE PRINCIPLES CONTINUES TO BE EXTENSIVELY IGNORED IN GENERAL PRACTICE. WHY?

CHIEF AMONG THE FACTORS WHICH HAVE FRUSTRATED OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS HAS BEEN THE UNFORTUNATE SUBDIVISION OF CONSERVATIONISTS INTO RELATIVELY SMALL SPECIALIZED GROUPS, EACH ONE FIGHTING FOR PERFECTLY WORTHY OBJECTIVES, BUT EACH ONE FIGHTING ALONE.

THERE NEVER HAS BEEN A G.H.Q. OF THE ALLIED ARMIES OF CONSERVATION. THERE PROBABLY NEVER COULD BE A COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WHO WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL FACTIONS BUT THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE NO POSSIBLE OBJECTION TO A METHOD WHICH WOULD COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF ALL FOR THE BENEFIT OF EACH.

WITHOUT ALTERING THE EXISTENCE AND CONTINUING FUNCTIONS OF THE SPECIALIZED GROUP ORGANIZATIONS A WAY MUST BE FOUND TO BRING THEIR COMBINED STRENGTH TO BEAR ON BROAD CONSERVATION ISSUES.

A CONSERVATION CLEARING HOUSE IS HERE PROPOSED AND ITS POSSIBILITIES DISCUSSED.

In the past each group has won its small local skirmishes here and there but like the little nations of Europe, each one seeking to save itself, all became victims of Nazi exploitation. So the segregation of conservationists into special interest groups has lacked the momentum of a united army fighting a common enemy in a great common cause, although all groups will concede that each is as indispensable as the other in maintaining nature's balanced economy. The mere fact of their being competitive for membership and jealous of prestige contributes to group isolation. Group isolation has robbed the vast conservation-minded army of its united strength.

To list a few of the best known organizations, all of which are broadly interested but working separately—"The American Forestry Association" centers its interests in forests and trees. "The National Parks Association" fights for more and better national parks. The "Friends of the Land" fight for soil conservation. The "National Association of Audubon Societies" specializes in birds. The "Izaak Walton League" fights for the sportsmen's interests; the Garden Clubs seek to raise the horticultural level. The "National Wildlife Federation" fights for conservation education; The "American Wildlife Institute" fights for environmental restoration, and "Ducks Unlimited" fights for restoration of Canadian nesting grounds for ducks and geese. Gun Clubs want more game and farmers fight the grasshoppers and potato bugs.

IT SIMPLY DOES NOT MAKE SENSE THAT SO GREAT A COMMON CAUSE SHOULD NEVER PRESENT A UNITED FRONT.

One of the first services which A Conservation Clearing House might perform would be to establish a Common Alarm System and Information Service—a Paul Revere who will ride through the countryside and tell the scattered conservationists when the enemy approaches, and from which direction.

FOREVER SELLING! NEVER AN INVOICE!

A great many people know a little about some one phase of our natural resources but only a few people know a great deal about all the factors essential to a comprehensive program for conservation. Altogether our factual knowledge on natural resources could be compared to a large department store in which each clerk knows the stock of goods on the shelves of his own department but no over-all invoice of the store exists or has ever been made—certainly a condition to arouse the interest of the most complacent business manager about to enter a new era of trade.

More nearly than ever before have these unknown factors been assembled for the war emergency. The "stock piles" needed for armament revealed some shocking surprises which had to be remedied by extravagant expenditures. It is the nearest approach to an invoice of natural resources of this continent we have ever had, but still the data on the various items is scattered throughout many government departments and bureaus and the over-all picture is known to a very few men. Before they are put away in the archives and forgotten they should be assembled, interpreted and made available to the public.

Postwar projects and legislation which seriously affect our continental invoice are matters of common interest. It is probably the only way an informed public opinion can be crystallized and made effective. A mutual understanding and appreciation of all the factors by a large proportion of the conservationists—(and let them know in time)—would contribute greatly to the general strength of the forces fighting against exploitation.

Without in the least interfering or entering into competition with existing conservation organizations and their specialized efforts a "Clearing House" for conservation could perform these services, remaining completely independent of each but serving all with equal impartiality—a chemical catalyst, if you choose, which enters into no combination with the existing elements but which by its presence causes them to react together.

By furnishing a timely and comprehensive service of information on all matters which have a bearing on natural resources, accompanied by authentic and unbiased analyses of the intent and probable consequences of all projects, legislative and executive actions relative to conservation, the Clearing House would not only perform a much needed public service in disseminating timely information to everyone from duck hunters to business executives but could conceivably be the means of uniting their combined forces in support of good conservation projects greatly strengthen the case of good conservation leadership.

A spot news press service, available to newspapers for editorial and special outdoor writers' columns, because of its revenue-producing qualifications, should be the first development. The voice of the press has been practically silent or muffled for want of informative data on conservation and natural resources.

WANTED: — A CONSERVATION "WHO'S WHO"

In preparation for its major functions, the Clearing House must next establish contact with all groups and agencies of organized conservationists and compile a Conservation Directory—a sort of Conservation "Man-Power Registration."

The Directory should include as complete a list as possible of names and addresses of all officers, directors and active members of organized conservation groups, all State and Federal personnel connected with government agencies operating in the interest of conservation, all scientific and research specialists in natural resources in the educational field, and all special outdoor writers and columnists of the daily press and magazines.

This Conservation Directory or Registration Roll would furnish the basis for distribution of information and is not without its profitable commercial possibilities.

WANTED: — A SERVICE OF INFORMATION

Thirdly in point of time only and primary in the effective activities of the Clearing House would be the preparation and distribution of a regular weekly bulletin of information on all matters related to natural resources: informative, analytical, scientifically accurate and unbiased.

The weekly Clearing House Bulletin should be to the world of natural resources and conservation what the Whaley-Eaton letter or similar analytical services are to the business world. It could be equally vital in its bearing on our national economy.

The service should analyze, in detail, the biological and economic consequence to be expected from such major developments as flood control and hydroelectric projects; the effect upon our national economy of vast drainage and irrigation developments; the extensive developments in the chemical world for the use of wood fibre and their effect on our remaining forest resources; the substitution of synthetic rubber for the imported natural products, and the manufacture of plastic innovations; the dangers to pollenization, bird life and plant sterility inherent in the general use of the new insect control chemicals, in all of which there are possibilities for upsetting the balance to which our economic and social structure has heretofore been adjusted.

The extensive hydroelectric power dams now pending can change the industrial map of the United States. What are the advantages and disadvantages, when scientifically analyzed?

The proposed Reclamation Service reservoirs and irrigation projects may change the agricultural map of the country. It was only a short time ago we were plowing under agricultural products. What is the answer?

The flood control dams in our major river systems will certainly change the fish and migratory waterfowl map of the nation. Should siltation control precede flood control dams?

Systematic power and flood control dams in our major rivers will inevitably flood extensive tracts of the richest farm lands which are along the rivers. What is the relative value of the lands to be artificially flooded compared to the lands to be protected from floods?

The subsoil water table is inextricably a part of our continental water management program and erosion control is a prerequisite to efficient power and flood control dams. Our waterways are to this continent what the blood stream is in living organisms. Friends and relatives should be notified before major operations are undertaken which may disjoint our whole social economy.

Business and industry could well profit by a better understanding of these important, costly and oftentimes far-reaching trends.

Reports on legislation, bills introduced and their progress should be a regular department of the information service.

Prominent and profitable among the functions of the Clearing House would be a press service of authentic analysis and first-hand news for outdoor columnists, editorial writers and sports editors. The existing news services are a practical blank on conservation and natural resources.

The Clearing House should issue from time to time, as the occasion requires, in addition to its weekly spot news, bulletins, analytic and comprehensive reports on the major and minor trends and activities of the government agencies, industry and science which bear upon the uses and abuses of nature's established pattern.

The Clearing House should assemble and maintain a complete library and reference file of all written material germane to natural resources.

A "Question and Answer Service" should be available to the public through the agency of the Clearing House staff. A highly qualified staff of editors, technical advisors and fact-finders would edit and prepare all material to be sent out from the Clearing House to clients.

The importance of coordinating the efforts of the scattered conservationists isolated within their specialized groups would justify the liberal contributions of public-minded individuals but if the idea is as successful as the objectives are important, a paying clientele should develop which would make the Clearing House self-sustaining if not a profitable investment.



N O T E

In the herein outlined Service of Information, all bulletins and analytical reports must be without bias and based on scientifically accurate authority. In case of controversial issues as between, for instance, the Army Engineers' program of Flood Control, the Reclamation Service's theory of water management and the T.V.A. pattern of environmental control, all cases should be given equally faithful presentation. A number of authoritative services do it for business. The same is quite as feasible in the information relative to natural resources.



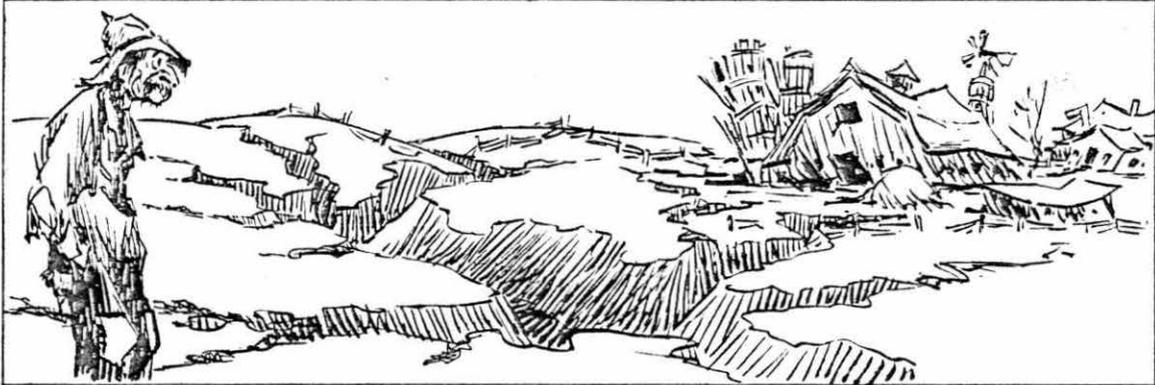
PART III.

WHAT

PART III.

STAFF, OPERATION AND ESTIMATED COSTS —
CLEARING HOUSE FOR CONSERVATION

AS LAND GOES, SO GOES MAN

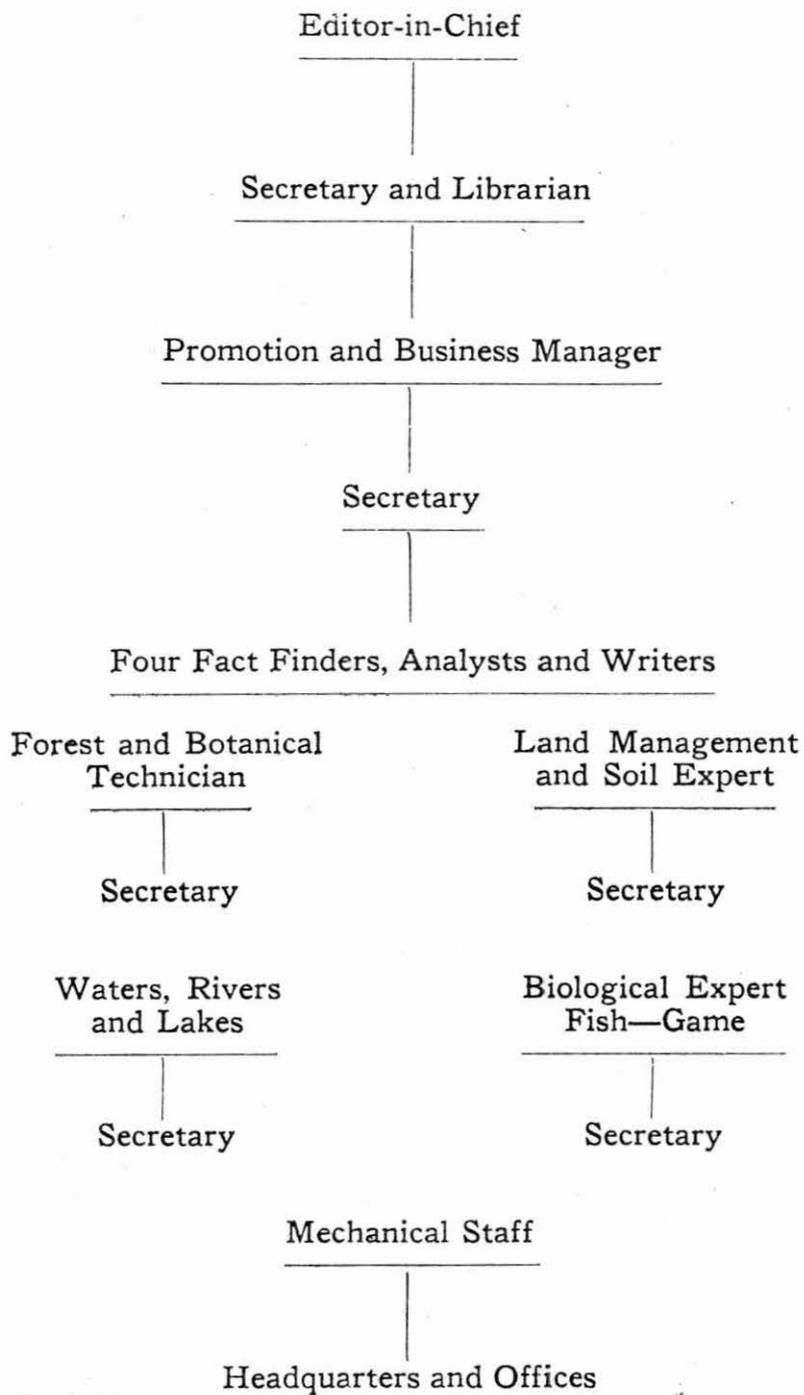


BUT JUST TRY TO GET ANY POLITICIAN TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT

A CLEARING HOUSE FOR CONSERVATION

\$100,000 a year for a period of 3 to 5 years, with prospect
of fair income returns at the end of a 5-year
development period

STUDY OF CLEARING HOUSE STAFF AND OPERATIONS
WITH HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.



C O S T S

*Editor-in-Chief	\$10,000.00
Promotion and Business Manager ...	10,000.00
4 Technical Writers @ \$6,000.....	24,000.00
5 Secretarial Staff @ \$2,500.....	12,500.00
Mechanical Assistants	<u>5,000.00</u>
Total Salaries	\$61,500.00

52 Weekly Bulletins a Year
to 30,000

Special Spot News Service:

Printing and Mailing	\$25,390.00
Office Rent	}
Office Postage	
Stationery	
Promotion	
Travel and Incidentals	<u>\$23,110.00</u>

Total Annual Expense.....\$125,000.00

From 3 to 5 years might be required to establish the service on a self-sustaining basis. Guaranteed funds before starting should be from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Some revenue might be expected within six months, with a gradual increase thereafter. All revenues for the first three years should be put back into the business, to cover cost of expanded service.

*Postwar building costs and rental values are at this time speculative and unpredictable and the above calculations are made with broad reservations.

The success or failure of the Conservation Clearing House will depend on the intelligence and absolute fairness of the editorial staff, fact-finders and analysts. The talent of the editorial staff must be of the very highest order and paid accordingly.

Certainly there is a vacuum in the public mind where knowledge of the state of our natural resources is concerned. Yet from the cost of a potato to the value of a United States Government Bond there is scarcely a factor in our national economy which is not intimately related to our supply of natural resources.

Properly interpreted, the Information Service, sent out from the Clearing House, can raise the curtain on a dramatic situation which may well call forth a very large paying patronage from all branches of society. There is at this time no service of information which pretends to cover this field.

Whether it should be a non-profit undertaking or set up on a commercial basis depends on the attitude of those men who may guarantee the costs during the first few introductory years. Some of those who have been approached on the financing problem see certain advantages in an independent corporation for profit, the common stock of which will be held by the backers. To the philanthropically inclined, there is a great appeal in the public benefits to be expected. On the commercial side, the prospects for profitable investment would seem equal to if not better than most publication ventures.

TO WHOM WILL SUCH A CLEARING HOUSE
SERVICE BE OF VALUE?

There is a ready made clientele in 33,000 groups, clubs, societies and associations organized in the interest of one or another phase of conservation.

There are 48 State Conservation Departments with varying numbers of personnel whose successful administration depends on up-to-date information on natural resources and trends which directly affect them.

There are nine million license-paying sportsmen.

Every Garden Club has a Conservation Chairman.

Boy Scout leaders, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Four-H groups, Future Farmers of America, vocational agriculturist groups and farmer's organizations are within the sphere of potential subscribers.

Schools, business men and industrial interests need it, though they may not know it, and the number of government officials who should subscribe is almost unlimited.

Outdoor Publications
The Daily Press
Farm Journals
Trade Journals
Educational Institutions
Public Libraries
County Agents
Industrial Economists
Scientific Research
Hydraulic Engineers
Science Teachers
Investment Brokers

All of the following metropolitan newspapers specialize in outdoor columns and writers. A special spot news service of information on wildlife would be a good prospect for considerable revenue . . .

Amarillo (Texas) Globe
 Atlanta Constitution
 Baltimore News Post
 Chicago Tribune
 Cincinnati Enquirer
 Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer (2)
 Columbus Citizen
 Denver Post
 Des Moines (Iowa) Register and Tribune
 Detroit Free Press (2)
 Fort Worth Star-Telegram
 Indianapolis Star Times
 Kansas City Star
 Los Angeles Examiner
 Memphis Commercial Appeal
 Minneapolis Star-Journal and Tribune (2)
 Newark (N. J.) News
 New York Herald Tribune
 New York Times
 Omaha Bee
 Philadelphia Bulletin and Enquirer (2)
 Pittsburgh Press
 San Francisco Chronicle (2)
 Seattle Post Intelligencer
 St. Louis Globe-Democrat
 and Post Dispatch (2)
 Tacoma News Tribune
 Washington Times Herald
 Wilmington News Journal

Secondary prospects among newspapers of small circulation might well include:

Albuquerque, N. M.
Birmingham, Alabama
Boise, Idaho
 Boston, Mass.
 Bridgeport, Conn.
 Buffalo, N. Y.
 Charleston, S. D.
 Chattanooga, Tenn.
 Dallas, Texas
 Fort Myers, Florida
 Grand Rapids, Mich.
 Great Falls, Montana
 Hartford, Conn.
 Jackson, Miss.
 Jacksonville, Florida
 Little Rock, Arkansas
 Long Beach, California
 Louisville, Ky.
 Memphis, Tenn.

Miami, Florida
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
New Orleans, La.
 Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Orlando, Florida
 Portland, Maine
 Portland, Oregon
 Providence, R. I.
 Richmond, Va.
 Rochester, N. Y.
 Rockford, Illinois
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 San Antonio, Texas
 Sioux City, Iowa
 Sioux Falls, S. D.
 Springfield, Mass.
 Topeka, Kansas
 Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Walla Walla, Wash.

Etc, etc.



In presenting this outline for a Clearing House of Conservation the proponents have no other purpose in mind than to suggest a means by which the fundamental principles of conservation may be forced upon the consideration of those who by their **controlling positions in national and state affairs have in the past given preference to less consequential matters.**

No one associated in the framing of the plan has any personal benefit in mind.

It will be submitted to all the influential conservation organizations for criticism and amendment, and frank expressions on the value of such a service are earnestly solicited.

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Write to: J. N. DARLING, Register and Tribune, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

CHESTER C. DAVIS, President Federal Reserve Bank, St. Louis 2, Mo.

JAMES INGLIS, American Blower Corporation, Detroit 32, Mich.

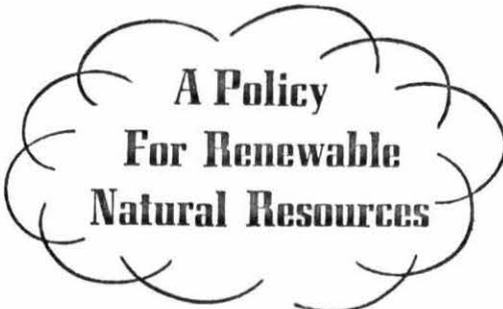
ALFRED H. WILLIAMS, President Federal Reserve Bank, Philadelphia, Pa.

APPENDIX B

The following member organizations have endorsed the Policy in principle:

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
 AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION
 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF RANGE MANAGEMENT
 CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
 ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
 FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS
 GRASSLAND RESEARCH FOUNDATION
 IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
 NATIONAL ASSN. OF BIOLOGY TEACHERS
 NATIONAL ASSN. OF SOIL CONS. DISTRICTS
 NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
 NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION
 NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
 NATURE CONSERVANCY
 NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
 NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
 SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA
 SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE
 WILDERNESS SOCIETY
 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
 WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Presented at the
 17TH NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE CONFERENCE
 MIAMI, FLORIDA, MARCH 18, 1952



**A Policy
 For Renewable
 Natural Resources**

Adopted at the
 FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
 FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, OCTOBER 1, 1951



Natural Resources Council of America
 Washington, D. C.

A POLICY FOR RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES

Preamble

We, the members of the Natural Resources Council of America, in order to provide the means for a high standard of living in a healthful environment, present the following fundamental policy for the use of our basic resources of soil, water, plants, and animals, so as to maintain them through the years and prevent their waste and depletion.

To attain these objectives, we recommend the following policy:

Inventories of Renewable Resources

1. Adequate and continuing inventories of the renewable natural resources of the nation are needed to determine their condition, productivity, and potential use in relation to human needs and should be supported as a guide to the proper utilization and treatment of these resources.

Scientific Conservation Plan

2. The orderly development and application of a comprehensive scientific conservation plan for every farm, ranch, small watershed, and other operating unit of the nation's land and water are imperative, and can best be achieved through the efforts of locally controlled groups.

Natural resource developments, including flood control, irrigation, and dam construction, are practically and ecologically most adequate when undertaken in relation to, or in conjunction with, upstream watershed programs.

Policy of Use

3. A sound policy includes the conservation, development, and proper utilization of renewable natural resources for: (a) sustained and improved agricultural production without waste, (b) protection and sustained-yield management of forest lands, (c) prevention of erosion, protection of streams from excessive siltation, and flood control to safeguard land from destructive overflow, (d) protection of community and industrial water supplies, (e) maintenance of underground water sources, (f) development and stabilization of irrigation and drainage as needed for sound land use, (g) maintenance of maximum fish and wildlife resources, (h) preservation, and proper utilization of areas best suited for needed recreational, esthetic, cultural, and ecological purposes, and (i) protection and revegetation, where necessary, of grasslands suited to range utilization.

Responsibility of Land Ownership

4. Good management, public interest, and human welfare require that all landowners, public or private, care for soil and water under their control in a manner that will ensure that future generations may derive from them full enjoyment and benefit. Landowners have no moral right to abuse their lands.

Preservation of Special Areas

5. A sufficient number of examples of every type of natural area should be preserved and kept perpetually as inviolate natural and wilderness areas for their scientific, educational, and esthetic values. These should include

examples of vegetation types and areas providing habitat for rare plants and animals. Public lands dedicated to special recreational and conservation purposes—parks, monuments, wilderness and primitive areas, wildlife refuges, and similar lands—should not be used for any purpose alien to the primary purposes of the area.

Efficient Resource Administration

6. All public service should be conducted efficiently to avoid unnecessary burden on the tax-paying public. Any overlapping functions of the several governmental agencies concerned with the administration of natural resources should be eliminated and all operations should be coordinated.

Public Participation in Conservation

7. Local, county, and state responsibility in regional and basin-wide programs, involving the use and development of soil, water, and the living resources, must include full participation in the planning, financing, management, and other phases of such programs.

National Need vs Political Expediency

8. Power developments, flood control projects, irrigation and drainage activities, and similar developments, planned and constructed largely at Federal expense, which materially change or influence existing natural resources and their protection or use, should be required to result in *national* benefit. Justification, economic and social, of projects should be realistic, should be considerate of all values, and should not rest on hopeful expectancy. Methods should be developed for equitable distribution of the project cost among the beneficiaries.

Board of Review

9. An independent Board of Review, composed of five members who have no affiliation with any federal agency but have outstanding interest in public affairs, should be created to review the need, cost, and desirability of all federal land and water projects and basin-wide programs. This Board should have authority to determine whether or not all projects conform to basic policies. In this way it will be possible to secure planning and consideration at every level of all phases of resource use and management, including not only hydroelectric power, flood and sediment control, navigation, irrigation, and drainage, but soil conservation, forestry, water supply, pollution abatement, recreation, fish and wildlife, parks, wilderness, and all other aspects of the entire program required for the long-range use and care of these resources.

Members of this Board should be appointed by the President to serve staggered terms and should be confirmed by the Senate. The Board should have an adequate budget and sufficient personnel to permit the prompt investigation and impartial evaluation of all development proposals. Congress should in its policy statement declare that it will not approve any proposed federal development programs nor appropriate money for such works until the findings and recommendations of this Board of Review are available.

Policy Legislation

10. To make this policy effective, Congress should pass legislation enacting it into basic law.

JUSTIFICATION

There is a growing understanding that soil, water, and living resources, and man are intimately related. At the same time, there is a greater realization that natural resources constitute the basic strength and wealth of a nation. In the emergency now facing this country—an emergency which may last for many years—the manner in which these resources are managed will be vital to the defense of America, its institutions and liberties.

Natural resources can be exploited needlessly under an unnecessarily narrow concept, as is being done, or they can be managed wisely and utilized for unprecedented strength under a broader policy, as herein advocated. Natural resources need not and should not be sacrificed because of the national emergency. That is a habit that must be discarded. Surely this nation has learned that precious resources can be used to give continuing material productivity without sacrificing moral strength and regeneration of spirit.

While it is imperative to have a basic policy for developing and managing natural resources, it is equally important that the policy be realistic as to present needs and mindful that the long-time goal is a peaceful, prosperous future.

Natural watersheds and river basins are becoming more and more widely accepted as the most desirable and practical units for planning resource developments. Watershed and basin development proposals have most frequently emphasized power, irrigation, and flood control opportunities. These are not, however, the only possible uses of water; indeed, they may not be the primary or the most fruitful ones. Land, water, forest, and wildlife management; the protection of watersheds; preservation of wilderness; development of recreational opportunities in parks, forests, and national monuments; and the protection and development of fishing in both inland and coastal waters certainly warrant equal attention. Experience shows, and science has proved, that natural resources are interdependent, either thriving together or wasting together according to the manner in which they are treated. Natural resource management must be considered not only in its separate categories, but as an entity.

Watershed development must be comprehensive; it must consider not only flood control and power and irrigation, which are conflicting and cannot be adequately handled in the same reservoirs, but *all* natural resources in proper balance and in rightful priority in relation to needs.

From time to time, the needs of the nation and the needs of the people change. Furthermore, the needs of the people in one part of the country usually are quite different from those in other sections of this vast land. Power may be more important during the next two decades in the Pacific Northwest than in the Southeast. Recreational opportunities in nearby natural surroundings may be more urgently needed during the next ten years in some areas, for newly concentrated masses of people, than in others. This does not mean that sufficient power and recreation are not needed in all places, but it does illustrate the importance of time, degree, and priority.

As the nation proceeds with the development and management of its natural resources, either on a watershed basis or otherwise, the work should be undertaken on a broad and comprehensive basis. There is need for national policy, national planning, and national goals. Within this framework, there is a compelling need for overall planning within individual watersheds, which considers relative degrees of importance, or priorities, among the several objectives that are sought.

Planning for the development and use of natural resources can be handed down from on high as is being done now in much of the water development, or it can grow gradually from the ideas and needs of the local citizens and groups most concerned. The latter, which is in the American tradition, promises the greatest returns over the longest period of time.

The aim of this policy is to achieve unified scientific management and perpetuation of land, water, and the living resources in the widest public interest, not only during the prolonged years of emergency ahead but into the future days of peace that will follow.

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APPENDIX C

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63 W. Beaumont Rd.,
Columbus 14, Ohio
Feb. 8, 1963

Mr. J.W. Penfold, Secy N.R.C.A.
322 Bond Bldg.,
Washington 5, D.C.

Dear Joe:

The withdrawal of the A.S.L.O. from the N.R.C.A. was doubtless based upon the report I made, after the meetings at Lake Placid, but I had not known of the action until your letter came. I am copying my report to them, so you will know my thinking on the subject.

Copy:

Dear Dr. Pennak:

Your recent note in re my service as representative of the ASLO awaited my return from the annual meeting of the Natural Resources Council, at Lake Placid, New York. My attendance at this meeting cost me, personally, about \$200. Certain other meetings have cost me more, and some would have cost so much that I have not gone to them. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at Detroit, and this is close enough to Ohio to permit me to attend it at low cost. I would like to do this.

The continuation of membership in the NRC by the ASLO should be given serious consideration for the following reasons:

1. The NRC was organized to bring together representatives of such groups of crusaders as the Sierra Club, the Isaac Walton League, the Nature Conservancy, and especially such organizations as the Wildlife Federation, the Wildlife Institute, the Sports Fishing Institute, the National Parks Association, the Soil Conservation Society, and the Society of American Foresters, which "front" for the corresponding branches of the federal services.
2. The principal, and almost sole, function of the NRC has been the financing of listing of bills before congress under the headings of "legislative news service", and of executive orders under the title of "executive news service".
3. Organizations of scientists, such as the ASLO, the American Fisheries Society, the Wildlife Society, the Ecological Society, and a few others, were invited to join the NRC, and the reason cited was to enable the propagandists to have access to authoritative statements about whatever conservation problems might arise. The real reason was to lengthen the list of people who might bring pressures, pro or con, as suggested by the crusaders, on congressmen or other officials connected with specific proposals.
4. Our organization has been represented more times at the meetings of the NRC than any other group of scientists, but not once have I been asked to have our group supply information needed by the NRC. Mrs. Langlois and I played hosts to the NRC at their meeting in October, 1951, and I presented an unasked for report on Lake Erie. The NRC made no use of the facts then handed them, nor did any of the organizations with delegates at that meeting. Council received a report from Dreyer, of the Ecological Society, and this report has been returned to Dreyer, a year later, with a request for a much simplified condensation. The NRC's Scientific Committee consists of Dr. Edward Graham, now busy with problems of administration, David Brower, propagandist of the Sierra Club, and Dr. Wm. Dreyer, the one functioning scientist on the committee.
5. The issuance of news releases duplicates a service being rendered by the National Wildlife Federation. Any of us, or anyone else, might get these same news releases simply by writing for them. The utility of this activity of the NRC was expressed at the recent meetings by the statement that "It wont hurt anybody, and it gives the NRC a sense of function." I commented then that this was a good reason for stopping such a useless gesture.

Many of the members of the NRC are old friends of ours, so we have enjoyed the annual reunion, and the meetings have led to our visiting some interesting places, but I have told the group on numerous occasions that I think the NRC lacks any real basis for existence, and I have so stated on earlier reports to the ASLO. I think

the ASLO might better use its membership fees some other way, but if delegated to represent the ASLO on the NRC for another year, I will be glad to do so.

cordially,
Thomas H. Langlois.

It appears now that my comments to the NRC at the Lake Placid meeting were my swan song. I cannot avoid the conclusion that those members of the group who are active crusaders, are, consciously or not, striving to promote causes on the bases of programs which have formulated by federal employees for federal organizations, and, since I have never conceded that federal fisheries workers had any better backgrounds of knowledge, or better abilities to analyze problems, especially those in my bailiwick, than local scientists or technicians, I have been a lifelong critic of those agencies. The analysis of the Lake Erie problems which I presented to the NRC in 1951 was quite different from that then being made by federal worker~~s~~. Granting that facts gained by a new approach are not readily palatable, the tendency of federal workers to ignore such facts, as they did at that time, even though the facts and the conclusions based upon them were the result of a research program which had cost the State of Ohio a quarter of a million dollars, is not in accord with the spirit of science. Our interpretation of the changes of Lake Erie are now being broadcast by those same workers as if they had had the bright ideas themselves, without credit to Ohio, and to me, for daring to think differently than they had been doing for decades.

Your predecessor with the I.W.I.a, Ken Reid, expressed the same attitude at a national meeting in Chicago, when I presented the basis for Ohio's opposition to a treaty with Canada for controlling the fisheries of the Great Lakes. I thought then, and still think, that the primary motive of those advocates for regulation was the power to regulate and control, not the management of the fish resource for the most good of the most people. This desire is still uppermost in some of their minds, even though the changes of environment which I then pointed out have practically brought the fishery to its end.

For the NRC to endorse and seek to further such federal programs as may be handed out, rather than to give adequate consideration to the problems themselves, is not sound, to my thinking. Accordingly, I recommended to the ASLO the withdrawal which they have announced. Maybe this makes a crusader of me?

Our sincere affection to Mrs. P. and yourself.

Thomas H. Langlois

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