

Chamber Commerce Bul. Feb. 1-36

WILD-LIFE GROUP FORMED

With the purpose of co-ordinating the work of all state groups interested in wild-life conservation the Oregon State Conservation council was formed at a meeting of representatives from various sportsmen's organizations, chambers and junior chambers of commerce and others interested in game preservation, held in Portland this week. The Portland Chamber was represented at the meeting by C. P. Keyser, chairman of the Recreational Resources committee, and members of that group.

The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce which has adopted a nationwide conservation project as a major 1936 activity sponsored the organization of the new council, according to Worth Caldwell, president of the local junior body, who left this week to attend the president's conference on wild-life conservation to be held in Washington, D. C., February 3 to 7.

Ed F. Averill, ex-state game superintendent, was selected permanent chairman of the newly formed Oregon State Conservation council and William L. Finley, Jr. secretary. An executive committee of 10 will be appointed by the chairman.

Darling Elected Temporary Head Oreg. by Wild Lifers

Feb. 6-36

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—J. N. "Ding" Darling, cartoonist and former chief of the biological survey, was elected today temporary president of the "General Wild Life Federation" set up by the North American Wild Life conference.

The federation chose three temporary vice-presidents: I. T. Quinn of Alabama, former Senator Frederick Walcott of Connecticut and W. L. Finley, Portland.

Permanent officers of the newly founded federation will be elected after the several states ratify a constitution for the organization and send delegates to a federation conference on a date yet to be determined.

Wood, Field and Stream

N.Y. Times By GEORGE GREENFIELD, Feb. 20-1936

Almost without exception, the organized sportsmen's groups of New York State are squarely behind Commissioner Lithgow Osborne in his efforts to obtain for the Conservation Department broad discretionary powers in the regulation of fishing and hunting.

In appearing before a joint legislative hearing at Albany on Tuesday to urge enactment of measures which would provide such powers the commissioner reflected not only the sentiments of the majority of license holders but also the best-informed opinion of experts in the wild life field.

No less an authority than Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, recently told the delegates to the North American Wildlife Conference that the individual States could contribute materially to the restoration program by placing the regulation of game laws in the hands of experts.

Laws Must Be Flexible.

Game laws, he pointed out, must be flexible to meet changing biological conditions. Control by legislative enactment is unwieldy and impracticable, and in some cases detrimental to wild life, in his judgment.

Connecticut, one of our most progressive States in the matter of fish and game management, last year passed legislation similar to that now being sought in New York. Sportsmen of that State soon realized the advantages of the new system.

Empowered to use its own discretion in adjusting bag limits, lengths of seasons and other regulations formerly fixed by legislative edict, the Connecticut Board of Fisheries and Game last Fall opened a number of trout streams for Autumn fishing and subsequently decreed an extension of the upland game season to compensate for time lost as a result of forest fire hazards.

Commission Aids Sportsmen.

Both of these acts were warranted by prevailing conditions and gave added recreation to anglers and hunters. Under the old system of rigid legislative regulation, the hands of the commission would have been tied.

If the New York Conservation Department had been vested with similar discretionary powers last year, shooters in this State might have enjoyed a longer season on grouse. Partridge were more abundant last Fall than in the past thirty years, and, in the opinion of wild life experts, an extended period of shooting would have been of actual benefit to the birds.

The scattering of the flocks during periods of heavy concentration

provides a better balance and reduces the dangers from diseases, scientists contend.

Numerous other instances might be cited to show the advantages, both to wildlife and to sportsmen, that would accrue if regulation of fish and game laws were turned over to the trained experts of the Conservation Department. Conservationists and license holders generally are convinced that New York would take a long step toward intelligent management of its natural resources by enacting the measures now pending at Albany.

Two Skeet Events Listed.

Two attractive skeet competitions will engage the attention of the metropolitan area's scatter-gun stars this week-end.

The 1936 Westchester County championship, open to members of all clubs in the county, will be decided on the two fields of the Valhalla Skeet Club at Briarcliff Manor on Saturday. Individual and two-man events will be shot concurrently at 75 targets.

The Loantaka Club grounds near Morristown, N. J., will be the scene of the other tournament, the Eastern open two-man championship.

The program will start on Saturday with 20-gauge and .410 short-shell shoots at 100 targets and will be concluded on Sunday, when the open all-bore test will be staged. Officials of the club announced yesterday that the tournament would be held regardless of weather conditions.

Club Dates Scheduled.

At a meeting of the Dover Chapter of the Consolidated Sportsmen of New Jersey last night, members heard a report on the recent North American Wildlife Conference from officers of the State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs who attended the Washington session. Plans for forming a State-wide organization to affiliate with the National Wildlife Federation were discussed.

Among events scheduled by clubs in this area are the following:

Annual Washington's Birthday party of the Belmar Fishing Club at the Belmar (N. J.) clubhouse, Saturday afternoon.

Annual dinner of the Rockaway Point Surf Anglers' Club at Oetjen's, Ocean and Flatbush Avenues, Brooklyn, on Saturday night, featured by awarding of fishing prizes.

Special meeting tonight of the Metropolitan Rod and Gun Club to discuss plans for participating in the National Sportsmen's Show at Grand Central Palace, Feb. 29-March 7.

Meeting of the West End Surf Fishing Club at 216 Crescent Street, Brooklyn, Monday night.