18th Convention Of Waltonians Convenes Here

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Preservation of Wild Life And Pollution of State Streams Discussed

Tillamook Ore. Headlight-Herald

Closes With Sunday Picnic

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Many Resolutions Presented Before Assemblage

The 18th annual state convention of the Izaak Walton League opened in Tillamook on Friday morning of last week with registration at the Tillamook hotel occupying the entire forenoon. The session in the afternoon with Ed. F. Averill, acting as chairman opened in the circuit court room, and while only a few delegates were in attendance a great deal of constructive material was laid before the meeting.

Work of the state sanitary commission was explained by Carl Green, state sanitary engineer. This was followed by a discussion of anti-pollution legislation in Oregon by Arthur J. Moulton of Portland. Mr. Moulton stated that the state needed a law prohibiting the dumping of refuse material into the streams of the state, and that he would prefer to call it stream purification rather than stream pollution. He cited many instances where disposal plants had been put into use to correct the pollution of streams and expressed hope that in the very near future other cities would follow the lead of those that are the most progressive. He called attention to the fact that there is now an existing law, prohibiting the dumping of harmful waste in the streams of the state.

Wm. L. Finley, vice-president of the Izaak Walton League state association called attention to the fight for the protection of he wild life of America and the results that had been obtained in regards to migratory birds. In speaking of stream pollution he stated that he believed it more judicious if the federal government would legislate against such habits, citing as his reason, that many of the larger rivers flow through many states and that it was almost impossible to secure the same legislation in each state through which the river flows.

Portland's sewage disposal problem was discussed by H. Abbott Lawrence, who stated that while attempts had been made to correct the evil that there exists, so far not a great deal has been accomplished.

The last speaker of the afternoon was James Cellars of Astoria, representing the commercial fishermen who dwelt upon the pollution of the Columbia river and the damage that such pollution is causing to fish life in that river. At tempts are being made to have a thorough investigation of the cause of this pollution, which is a grey slime, and the cause rectified. Some funds are now available and it is the plan to bring the matter to the attention of the next legislature in an attempt to have an appropriation made for the investigation.

Saturday morning's meeting under the guidance of W. J. Smith, of the Wildlife Council, brought out the objectives of the League, that of preservation of wildlife, both of stream and wood. Mr. Smith stated in his opening remarks that he was in hope that something could be done to make this project more than just a localized project. Concern over the lack of membership in the state was expressed by J. Stanley Emery and W. L. Finley in short talks. Arthur Moulton also added his appeal to this subject and recounted some of his experiences in wild game hunting, and stated that in places where once there was no wild game, that today game is found there, which shows that some progress has been made.

Judge Harland M. Woods, former state secretary of the Izaak Walton League spoke on conservation, and believes that there is not sufficient thought given to the subject until it is too late to save the fast diminishing game life. He sated that he feels that if the commercial fishermen of this section of the country would agree to the lowering of deadlines, and removal of all nets from the rivers, the sportsmen should be willing to close certain portions of the streams for spawning grounds, and that a great good would be accomplished toward the natural propagation of fish.

Various other speakers including Harold Blakely, W. L. Dallas and Everett Wells stressed their feeling of importance of game and fish preservation. Among other matters discussed were, that school children should be taught the value of conservation, and shown by picture what can and has been accomplished.

The Saturday afternoon session was filled with reports of officers and committees, the major portion of the time being taken up by the resolutions committee, who presented a resolution which was adopted by the convention favoring the proposed legislation which will prohibit all set nets from the streams and making the closing season to commercial fishing from November 30 to June 1, and the lowering of dead lines.

The next resolution dealt with legislation of wildlife, proposing to create five districts within the state, and the appointment of the game commission in staggering terms so that the entire commission will not conclude their term of office at the same time, said appointments to be made by the governor; also the appointment of a game conservation director, and to embody the enforcement of the game laws in the duties of the game commission, taking not over 40 of the present men in the game division of the state police force.

Resolutions were presented in regards to the dumping of refuse from placer mining into the Rogue river, also one seeking assistance of $3000 from the game commission and others for investigation of the pollution of the Columbia river; the extension of the territorial limit in the Pacific ocean from the 3-mile limit to 100-mile limit.

Other resolutions thanked the game commission for past work and plans they have for the future, the Tillamook chapter for their hospitality and one on condolence to the family of S. M. Batterson, who had been so active in game preservation.

The election of officers resulted in the following: H. Abbott Lawrence, president; Dr. David Charlton, Portland, and Harland M. Woods, Tillamook, vice-presidents and John Ebinger, Klamath Falls; R. H. Gardner, Tillamook; Arthur J. Moulton, Portland; J. Stanley Emery, Marshfield; Walter Johnson, Astoria; Chester McCarthy, Portland, and P. A. Loar, Silverton directors.

Saturday evening, members of the Izaak Walton League, visiting delegates of the league and their wives enjoyed a sea food dinner at the Tillamook hotel with places arranged for about ninety guests. W. J. Smith, chairman of the Wild Life Council gave the address of welcome and acted as toastmaster. He spoke of the "Great Out Of Doors" with its woods, water and wild life, asking only a proper understanding, care and enjoyment. He spoke of the abundance of wild life at Yellowstone Park where special care has helped preserve animals such as the grizzly bear, now almost extinct and also of the large amount of money brought in by those who enjoy wild life. He felt that it was the special heritage of the Izaak Walton League to carry on the work and closed with extending a welcome to members of the various chapters present at the banquet. He introduced Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Jewett and mentioned the life devotion of Mr. Jewett to wild life conservation; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moulton of Portland who announced the barbecued cougar which will be served at the Clackamas picnic, August 11; Merrill Rose, member of the Oregon Game Commission and Mrs. Rose; Mr. and Glenn Mitchell; Francis Lambert; Dr. Charlton, Mr. and Mrs. Will Foster; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leak; John Ebinger, of Klamath Falls; Harold Blakely, secretary of the local chapter; Judge Harland Woods who presented Miss Jean Feldschau, a candidate for queen of the Tillamook County Fair and Mrs. Woods; R. H. Gardner, president of the local chapter and then State President Stanley Emery of Marshfield who gave a fine description of the ideals of the league, which he explained as love of country and patriotism. He likened Un-American activities to weeds in the woods which half way methods will not desroy.

Mr. Smith presented his wife, who has accompanied him on so many of the trips which he told of taking in company Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Finley while taking pictures of wild life and then presented first Mrs. Finley who in a few word described her enjoyment of the out-of-doors and her loyalty to the West.

Dr. Finley, as speaker for the evening, gave an excellent account of his fight for many years to take Washington, D. C. out-of-doors. He described the early days of Oregon and all of its attendant problems, spoke of his days of fishing with his father, of their coming to Portland on May 11, 1887 of his swimming in the Willamette river and of his later efforts to clear the waters so that one can again enjoy swimming. He told of early cruises up the Willamette River, Lewis river in Washington with a friend, of finding shooting with a camera more exciting than with a gun, of his first trip to Netarts Bay; of the vast numbers of birds on Three Arch Rocks then; of in

1903, coming on bicycle to the to remain for 16 days before a trip could be made to the rocks and then of the trip in which the boat tipped over and their return to shore and another attempt which proving successful allowed them to spend five days and five nights on the rocks studying the birds and their flights. In 1905, he visited Klamath Lake home of wild life; in 1908 Malheur Lake which he afterwards succeeded in prevailing upon Theodore Roosevelt to make into a permanent reserve. Later both Klamath Falls and Malheur lake reserves were destroyed to make way for agricultural land and proving unsuitable were returned to reserves but not until much of the grain which feeds the birds and also much of the wild life had been completely wasted. He told of trips to Mexico and Alaska, mentioning as wonderful the bird life in Alaska.

The program was then devoted to a showing of wild life through motion pictures, by Mr. Smith. The pictures depicted many of the trips taken by Mr. and Mrs. Finley and Mr. and Mrs. Smith, and gave some interesting views of bird life and of herds of deer in Eastern Oregon.