

Increasing Deer, Buffalo and Bear Present Problems

By ALEXANDER GEORGE
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WASHINGTON — Perhaps you've never seen a deer outside of a zoo, but there are 5,000,000 of them in the country—one to every 26 people.

In fact, the "too many deer" situation is causing worry by farmers in some sections right now. They fear a springtime blitz on their crops by animals that have been on scant natural rations this winter.

Buffalo, too, have the government's Wild Life Service pondering. Keeping the herds reduced in numbers to avoid over-grazing the ranges within the big game preserves is a constant concern.

Naturalists say that any over-abundance of deer, buffalo or other big game is sectional and circumstantial rather than general. The rapid growth of deer herds, which are depleting their own browsing facilities and turning to crops for food presents a problem to game commissioners and farmers in Pennsylvania and Michigan.

There were more iron deer in the front yards of solid Pennsylvanians 30 years ago than there were wild deer in the state's forests. Then whitetails were introduced and the deer population soared to 825,000. That is believed to be more than there were in the state before the white man came to America.

Worry For Farmers
Some farmers regard deer as the No. 1 predator. They deride the protection of them while there is a bounty on wildcats which they assert "never hurt anybody."

The surplus buffalo problem of course is not critical. Bison in this country number only 4,800 as compared with 60,000,000 which formerly roamed the continent. Most buffaloes now are confined to game preserves in the west and it is largely a question of keeping the herds small enough for the grazing areas.

There recently was an "oversupply" of them in some sections of New Mexico.

Black bear are considered public enemies in some farming localities where they have killed sheep and calves and pilfered gardens. There are 105,000 in the United States. The famed grizzly bear—ursus horribilis, the majority of them in 1,163, the majority of them in national forests and parks.

Shortage of Pickers Boosts Hop Yard Wages

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Aug. 28. (AP)—Shortage of pickers for the Rogue river valley hop harvest, now three weeks old and employing 2,300 persons and three machines, was reflected Thursday by an increase in wages.

Some yards announced that they would pay two cents a pound with half-cent bonus for those remaining the entire season. This is equivalent to approximately 10 cents a pound for dry hops.

Previous picking price announced by all growers was 1 1/2 cents per pound with a half-cent bonus.

Worried growers escaped disaster by only a few minutes Wednesday night when a sudden thunder shower peppered Grants Pass with half an inch of rain in half an hour. The yards, all but one concentrated a short distance

west of the city, escaped the downpour which would probably have sent many overweighted poles and vines crashing to the ground.

Robert Helms reported he had 35 acres of tomatoes to be picked and could find no pickers.

Hobson's Choice

Tobias Hobson, an early English stable owner, kept horses to hire, and every customer was required to take the horse next to the door; there was no choosing. From this custom came the expression "Hobson's choice," which still is used to denote a choice without an alternative.

Labor Secretary Perkins Blames Unions for Woes

NEW YORK, Aug. 28.—(AP)

—Looking back over eight years as secretary of labor, Frances Perkins blames the split between the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations for the failure of collective bargaining to settle more disputes without strikes.

Writing in the September issue

of Fortune magazine, the nation's first woman cabinet officer describes the AFL-CIO schism as "largely an internal fight for control," and declares that "a re-union could be made tomorrow without ugly scars of hatred and rancor between the wage earners in each group."

"I have been called incompetent (and worse) because I have not prevented strikes," Miss Perkins writes, "and I am aware that there is a theory that if I were a two-fisted male I should be able to stop strikes."

"The accusation that I am a woman is incontrovertible. As

for being two-fisted, I'm sure that it is unrealistic and lacking in human knowledge to believe that getting tough or cracking down on working people would make things better. There have been two-fisted males in this office and strikes were never prevented, because no secretary of labor has ever had the authority or the power directly to stop strikes, and it is doubtful if any clear thinking citizen would be willing to give to any agency of government the absolute right and power to interfere with other citizens."

"The only power I have," she declares, "is to act as labor's

spokesman in the government." "The AFL-CIO split was largely an internal fight for control, in which the idea of vertical unions was only a minor issue. At all times I have tried to bring the two factions together, always appointing representatives of both groups to committees and advisory boards."

"I have urged John Lewis (former head of the CIO) over and over again to make peace with the AFL—and he has said over and over again that he expected to make peace 'when the right time comes.'"

"The president wrote Mr. Lewis

a letter asking him to make peace. That irked Mr. Lewis. It was after that that he called me 'wooly in the head.' I received letters and telegrams from labor organizations (both AFL and CIO) asking me to keep trying to make peace."

Crimson Gowns

The wife of Henry II of France, Catherine de Medici, had such a liking for velvet and red that she made a law forbidding any woman not a princess to have a gown wholly of crimson.

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