

## CALLING ALL SPORTSMEN

Did you buy an Oregon hunting or fishing license last year

Then, according to Judge Hans Nelson, you were one of 440,000 persons who contributed over 2½ million dollars to the state game fund. That would go a long way toward restocking our streams and replenishing our game—if a cool million of it weren't earmarked for the 1953-55 State Policy budget.

The judge points out that Oregon is the only state in the Union which places the enforcement of its game laws in the hands of its state police. And since the game commission is self-supporting, a large part of its annual revenue must go to pay over-worked policemen who often do not understand game protection and over whom the commission has no control.

Quick to point out that the state police have done an excellent job in this area, the judge nevertheless feels that the present system is at fault. Ignorance of the facts on the part of most sportsmen is a far greater menace to wildlife than a few wilful law-breakers, he insists.

An ardent fisherman himself, he is glad to report that there is a bill in committee in the present state legislature, which will remedy the situation. Known as Senate Bill 270, it provides for a game protector, who is charged first, with carrying the facts of Oregon wildlife to all the people, and second, with enforcing our game laws. If this bill becomes law, says the judge, your license fees will be played back into a game management program in which the emphasis will be on the preservation of wildlife, more wildlife information to more people, and consequently fewer convictions.

A public hearing of the bill was held in the State House at Salem during the first week in March. It already has the sup-

port of the Oregon Wildlife Federation and many local groups, such as the Chetco Rod and Gun Club. But the support of individual hunters and fishermen is also essential, adds the judge.

If you want a good game management program in Oregon, free of politics and dedicated to replenishing our wildlife, write, wire, or call Senator George Ulett, or Representative Roderick McKenzie in Salem today.

Ask him to support Senate Bill 270 on behalf of Oregon fish and game in the years to come.

Special Bulletin  
Re Transfer of Enforcement of Game Laws to the Oregon Game Commission  
Senate Bill 207

We have succeeded in having this bill introduced in one piece instead of three parts as was requested at the 1951 Legislature. It is known as Senate Bill (S.B.) 207. It is now in the game committee of the Senate. A public hearing will undoubtedly be held some day during the week Feb. 23 through 27 or the week March 2 through 6. We will try to inform you of the date—which press for notice of hearing.

Write, wire, or call your legislator—Senator or Representative—asking him to support this bill. Letters, wires, or calls should be placed by individuals—the more the better—as well as by groups. Ask civic and other groups to support this bill.

More than 440,000 people bought hunting and fishing licenses in Oregon this year, contributing more than \$2,500,000 to the game fund for the management of our wildlife. About 20 per cent of this money is to be given to the state police by the legislature, which body has no responsibility in the management of our wildlife. This year more than a million dollars will go to the state police fund. During the 1943-1945 period \$270,293 was taken from the game funds for 37 enforcement men in the state police system; in 1945-1947 period \$316,548 for 50 men; during 1947-1949 period \$544,127 for 53 men; 1949-1951 period the budget called for \$596,000, but the legislature gave them \$775,000 for 54 men; during 1951-1953 period budget called for 66 men and 772,000 but legislature gave them \$843,000. The 1953-1955 budget calls for \$971,473 and it is estimated that increase in salaries asked for by state police will increase this by \$75,000 or a total of \$1,046,473, providing the legislature does not give more than this amount.

The Oregon Game Commission is one of the few commissions which operates without financial assistance from the general fund or the taxpayer. Each session of the legislature uses more and more of our game funds passed on to the state police. Why? Are the hunters and fishermen paying money into the game fund for the purpose of building a bigger and bigger state police system, over which the game commission has no supervision or direction of their activities, or are we paying our money for licenses so as to have more and better management of our wildlife with the hope that we will have an ever-increasing supply with which

to meet the ever-increasing demand for fish and game. Do you want to have your game funds diverted to another commission which has as its objective more and more arrests and convictions with little or no effort made by the state police to encourage better public relations and cooperation in the preservation of our wildlife? Or do you want a system where more emphasis is placed on better public relations and cooperation so as to minimize the number of arrests made. Unfortunately we will always have to arrest some. OREGON IS THE ONLY STATE in the Union which places the responsibility of the enforcement of its game laws in the hands of a state police system. This does not mean that we want the old "warden system" which was loaded with too much politics to be workable—let alone effective.

The Oregon Game Commission is doing a good job in attempting to obtain factual information regarding the wildlife of the state. One major and important part of its management program is missing; that is the division of the commission that will carry these facts and other information to the public. This is the work of the "Game Protector" as set up in S.B. 207 along with enforcement

of our game laws.

If we are to have a successful game management program in Oregon, ask your legislator to support S.B. 207. DO IT NOW.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE,  
Oregon Wildlife Federation,  
W. J. SMITH, Chairman,  
614 Corbett Building,

Portland, Oregon, Feb. 17 '53  
P.S.—Support Senate Bill 313, relating to the protection of Anadromous fish life in the rivers and streams tributary to the Columbia river and declaring an emergency.

See

MRS. ROSS PUTNAM

for

KIMBALL-WURLITZER  
PIANOS

and

HAMMOND ORGANS

Phone 2589 or Write Box 417  
Brookings, Oregon

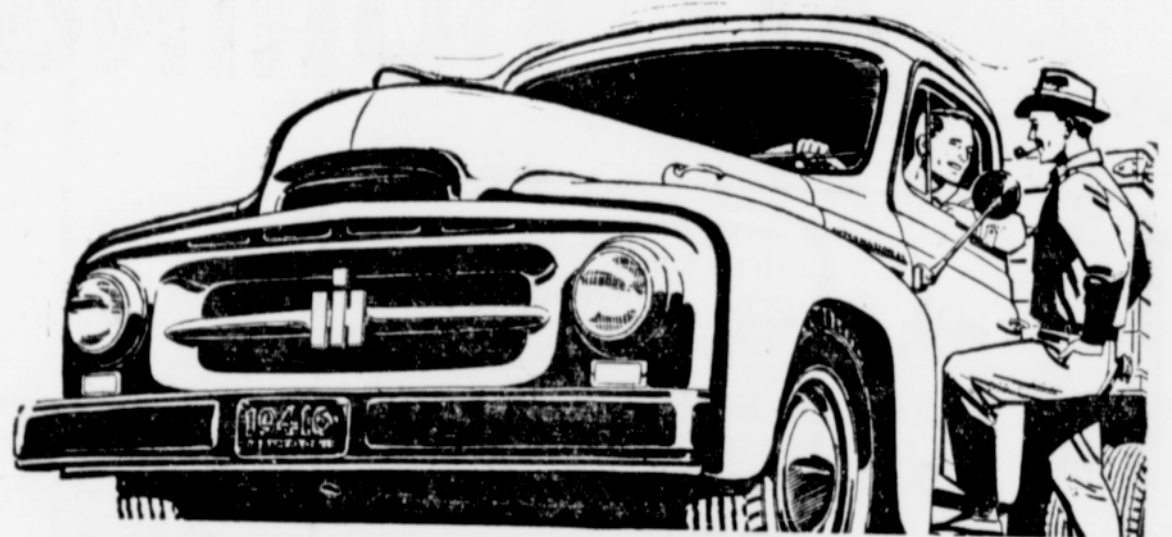
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