

Out-of-Doors Stuff
by LANS LENEVE

Much elation is expressed by game officials throughout the United States, due to the increase in the ranks of the ducks the past year. They have become so enthused regarding this increase that the season has been extended and the bag limit increased. If five mallards, widgeons or pintails (sprigs) are mixed with the bag, fifteen birds are allowed as a day's shooting limit.

Ten ducks were not enough; a couple of months season was not enough. The bag limit had to be increased to 15 ducks and the season extended, making it an 80 day season. Why? Because the ducks had increased in numbers.

What a peach of a time it would be to shorten the season and cut the bag limit, or leave it at ten. This would mean a larger increase in the birds the next season. It would mean that when the boys get home from their jobs over there that they would have plenty of birds to go after instead of depleted flocks, caused by an extended season and an increased bag limit. And if disease should strike the ranks of the birds the coming season, as it has in the past, conditions would be pitiful.

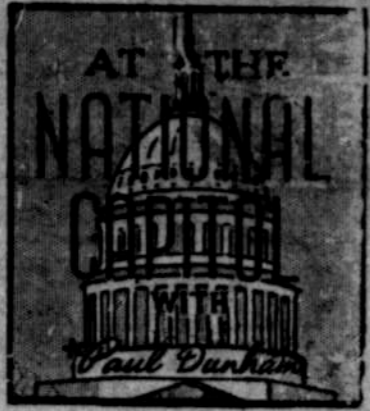
In the first place, ten ducks are too many for any family, and just what is to be done with 15 of them? The time to conserve any specie of game animals or birds, is when it is plentiful and not war upon it constantly, by creating large bag limits and extended seasons, owing to the fact that the birds or game had a good breeding or nesting season and happen to be plentiful, really plentiful, the first time in years.

Especially note is taken of the fact that the mallard, the king of all ducks, is on the "preferred list"—preferred by the game officials to be shot in the large numbers. Mallards are not plentiful in every district, but this evidently was never given a thought. Becoming enthused at the great numbers of ducks reported in by their field representatives, game officials simply "went hog wild" in declaring an extension of the season and a 15 bird bag limit.

As we have already stated—15 ducks are too many for any one family, just as ten ducks are. A sensible bag limit would be five such birds, or six at the most and it would insure a large number of ducks for years to come.

Some people point out the fact that a hunter may give ducks to those who do not hunt. This is done, it is true. But at the same time, both the Federal and State game laws state that such birds must be killed by a hunter who possesses a hunting license and that possession of game animals and birds is unlawful if the party having them in their possession does not have such a license. So, if you come right down to it, it is really unlawful for any friend of yours to be given ducks, or wild game, when he does not possess a hunting license.

Juvenile delinquency is discussed throughout the U. S. Various steps are being taken to curb it. Ideas are being advanced as to how it should be curbed, from college professors, from police departmental heads, from governors of various states, from welfare workers the church, and yet it seems that no one has actually struck upon a plausible solution to the problem. The writer of this column has a suggestion to make concerning this grave problem. It is simply this: give every lad a fishin' rod, send him forth into the out of doors, or sign him up with The Boy Scouts. Buy the girls a membership in The Campfire Girls. Interest them in out-



Washington, D. C., Aug. 24—Careful tabulation of bills passed or pending in the present congress, aside from direct appropriations for the war effort, shows the astounding total of fifty billion dollars in annual expenditure unless the proposed amounts are cut down or the measures are rejected outright. As the situation stands at the present time, with the appropriations made or authorized, the annual government expenditure is approximately twenty billion dollars, exclusive of the cost of the war. No peacetime tax system has yet been proposed which will bring in this amount of revenue.

Government revenues from taxation as of the present approximate \$45,000,000,000, but this is on the basis of a national income of about \$150,000,000,000. It is not contemplated by anyone that the post-war income of the federal government can have any such basis, and there is the practical certainty that a demand for tax reduction will follow shortly after the cessation of hostilities. These reductions cannot be made as soon as the war ends, of course, but the demand cannot long be ignored. It is, however, the considered opinion of government officials that tax rates must be maintained sufficiently high to bring in approximately \$20,000,000,000 a year for an indefinite period in the future.

Under the most favorable of conditions, it is estimated that the post-war national income may reach \$120,000,000,000 and on this basis an annual revenue of twenty billion will necessitate a higher rate of taxation than has ever been imposed in the United States in other than war time. The only alternative would be continued borrowing in sufficient amounts to make up the difference between income and outgo. This, with a war debt already approaching the \$300,000,000,000 mark, would invite an economic condition bordering on bankruptcy, according to arguments by senators who are opposing legislation which would make further inroads on the treasury.

It was the presentation of these facts, together with the inherent unsoundness of the measure, which resulted in defeat of the Kilgore-Murray bill in the senate, and it is believed they will have a deterrent effect in the house.

Latest demand for removal of the ban against orientals has come from an organization of India farmers in central California, which claims to speak for members of their race in California, Texas, Arizona and Washington. In a letter read to the senate they ask passage of senate bill 1595 which would permit the naturalization of 3,000 natives of India now in the United States. The letter points to the fact that their people

of-doors sports, just the same as the boys. No boy, no girl, nor no man for that matter, ever went wrong roaming the forests, the streams or indulging in the sports of the Great Out Of Doors.

It is a proven fact that the prisons of our land do not harbor one master criminal who was ever an ardent out-doorman. This is something for you adults to give careful consideration.

are fighting with the allies in the various theatres of war and that the bar against them is discriminatory and unjust. They do not ask that the bars be let down to permit unrestricted immigration of others from India.

There is still doubt in the minds of many observers as to the significance of a vote in the senate during consideration of the reconversion bill which, on the face of it, would seem to place a majority of the senators as being opposed to further restrictions on immigration. The vote came on an amendment offered by Senator Reynolds of North Carolina which reads as follows: "After the date of enactment of this act, and until the expiration of five years after the termination of the present war as proclaimed by the president, no immigration visa shall be issued to any immigrant." Adoption of this amendment would have the effect of abolishing the quota system entirely and arbitrarily forbid the entry into the United States of anyone not already a citizen. There was almost no discussion of the measure and no roll call, but it was rejected by an overwhelming vote.

An indication of the opposition which may be expected in the senate to acceptance of the international monetary agreement reached at Bretton Woods is contained in a letter written to President Roosevelt and signed by 26 senators, including Senators Cordon and Holman of Oregon and Walgren of Washington. Objection to the agreement is based on its alleged failure to recognize silver on a parity with gold in defining the obligation which shall be assumed by the several nations in establishing the stabilization fund. While the list of signatories includes senators who have heretofore steadfastly advocated the remonetization of silver, it also contains the names of several who have not hitherto been identified with that movement and opens the prospect that a two-thirds majority for ratification of the agreement is less than bright. As a matter of fact, it is not now believed the Bretton Woods agreement can be put over in its present form.

Wagon Road Lands Will Pay More

According to information received by Charles W. Forrest, county assessor, from W. H. Horning, chief forester for the Department of Interior, Coos county will receive a considerable larger sum in lieu of taxes on the Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant Lands for the fiscal year 1944-45 than the county's allotment for the fiscal year 1943-44.

Assessor Forrest has for some time protested the assessed value placed upon much of the land classified as Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands. The Congressional Act of May 24, 1939, states that these lands shall be appraised, assessed, and taxed in equitable and reasonable proportion to similar lands within the county. It has been Assessor Forrest's contention that this was not being done. His argument was based upon the fact that approximately 171 parcels of the land covered by the Act, were actually assessed considerably lower than any other properties within the county, some tracts being assessed as low as 25¢ per acre on the government roll, whereas, the basic and minimum land value on privately owned similar property was assessed at \$3.00 per acre.

Mr. Horning, in his letter to Mr. Forrest, states that he was unaware of this discrepancy in the assessment of the lands in question and that Mr. Forrest has his approval and support to increase these assessments to not less than \$3.00 per acre. Assessor Forrest states that this will be done on the 1944-45 tax roll which will shortly be prepared and computed on the Wagon Road Grant lands.

The benefit to Coos county, although not great, will ease the tax burden somewhat upon individual taxpayers, at the expense of the Federal Government. The estimated additional allotment to the county will vary from year to year, but will be in the neighborhood of \$500 additional to the regular payment in lieu of taxes by the government of the United States to Coos county.

Another matter under discussion between the assessor's office and the Department of Interior is the proposed cruising of the Coos Bay Wagon Road timber lands. The timber now assessed on these lands is based upon an estimate only. It is therefore not very accurate for assessment purposes, nor for estimating the quantity and quality in the event of sale of the timber by the Department of Interior.

Assessor Forrest states a fund is set up in Washington, D. C. in which the money received from the sale of timber on the Wagon Road lands is deposited. This fund has grown to an amount well over \$150,000, of which Coos county receives about \$12,000 or \$13,000 per year. Accord-

ing to the Act of May 24, passed by Congress, at the end of a ten-year period, this money if not used, reverts to the Treasurer of the U. S. Since the act was passed in 1939, it is natural to assume that the Government will get the major portion of the \$150,000, as the most that Coos county will receive will be about \$65,000 in the coming five-year period.

It is therefore proposed by Assessor Forrest that Coos county take immediate steps to encourage W. H. Horning and the Department of Interior to have this timber cruised as a post war project.

The cost of the work would amount to about \$75,000 and would be paid for by the Government and charged to the Wagon Road fund. The expenditure would not influence the payment in lieu of taxes to Coos county and would be paid for entirely out of money which would in five years revert to the United States Treasurer.

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