

Weiland Urges Committee to Adopt Bill to Conserve Wildlife

"We feel our wildlife and particularly our migratory waterfowl is precious to us for its recreational and resulting economic values," Col. Paul H. Weiland, Medford, told a hearing of the irrigation and reclamation subcommittee of the House interior and insular affairs committee Friday in Washington, D. C.

Weiland was asked to attend the hearing by the president of the Izaak Walton League of America to urge passage of Senate Bill 1988 which provides for the conservation of wildlife on the Pacific flyway including Tule Lake, Lower Klamath and Upper Klamath national wildlife refuges in Oregon and California.

Colonel Weiland noted that there was a large delegation present opposing the bill. This included C. L. Langset, representing the Klamath Basin Water Users Protective Association, a representative of the Klamath Irrigation district, and a large rancher of the Klamath area.

Weiland was representing the Oregon division of the Izaak Walton League, its Jackson county chapter, the Medford Gun club, the Oregon

Sportsman's club of Jackson county, the Rogue River Valley Retriever club and many individuals of Klamath and Jackson counties.

"This bill is designed to help perpetuate some of this wildlife and to control trends that will diminish or destroy it," Weiland said.

"For 10 years or more we have been trying to secure constructive legislation such as S. 1988. We are aware there have been difficulties in management of these refuges, particularly the Tule lake area. In the past 60 years the vast water and marsh areas of the Tule and Lower Klamath lakes have been reduced almost 87 per cent. Yet, when I visited the U. S. fish and wildlife service headquarters at Tule lake when the duck season opened in 1957, I found that the census taken just two days before showed over seven million waterfowl present and over three million of these were sprig (pintail) ducks—prize birds for our hunters.

"When one sees the vast numbers of waterfowl in this area, he begins to understand the importance of preserving the vital habitat which holds most of these birds here until

late in the fall so as to prevent damage to California crops," he said.

"Last Jan. 3, which was the last day of the duck hunting season, there were still many ducks and geese in the grain fields being flooded as part of the management program. So, hunting was good for several weeks in spite of zero temperatures and snow as high as 18 inches in the fields.

"The 6,447 acres of the Straights Line unit, from my observation is used intensively by ducks and geese feeding and by thousands of hunters for recreation," Weiland said. He noted the opposition in their statements had mentioned several times these lands were not used to any extent by the waterfowl, he told the subcommittee.

"It is to maintain this vast waterfowl heritage that I have come almost 3,000 miles. It is respectfully requested that you do all in your power to secure enactment of this bill. I appreciate the privilege of appearing before you," he said.

Weiland said he was the last person to testify during the two-day hearing in the

national's capital, but felt his presentation was quite effective.

Object to Statement

Colonel Weiland said he and the groups which he represents object strongly to a previous statement made by C. L. Langset, Klamath Falls postmaster and a representative of area water-users.

Langset said: "The public lands in Klamath Straits unit within the Klamath drainage district, and on which the district has paid the government for water rights under a 1921

contract, should go into private ownership.

"This unit has been a stumbling block to orderly development by the very farmers who made it possible for the U. S. bureau of reclamation to obtain \$1,153,248 in net lease revenue.

Not Practical

"It is not practical to develop a separate district within a district, the government should pay these land owners an acknowledged debt for construction of facilities to serve these lands out of present accumulated revenues."

Langset had added: "Hunting rights in perpetuity should be retained on this unit, whether it be sold or exchanged for private land in Lower Klamath lake to block out that refuge. We have recommended exchange to avoid putting the private land owners there out of business. However, we are agreeable to other means."

Colonel Weiland said Saturday he told the committee that those people he represents and many others oppose

any amendment that would provide for the loss of the Straights Line unit to private ownership.

Superimposes Refuges

"The present bill superimposes refuges on bureau of reclamation lands subject to the decisions of each succeeding secretary of interior as to what is optimum use for agriculture or wildlife. It prolongs the very issue we wish settled," Langset stated.

"Certainly the primary function of reclamation is agriculture, and wildlife, the

primary function of the fish and wildlife service. The two functions are not always compatible," he added.

Also attending the hearing were John Stewart, secretary of the Klamath Irrigation district and Dick Hensel, of Tuleana farms in the Klamath area. They represented the agricultural interests.

The subcommittee will make its report following the hearing to the Senate committee on interior and insular affairs. Then the senate will consider the bill.

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The Week in California All-Out Effort Made to Avoid Strike in Aerospace Industry

By United Press International

The federal government joined management and labor negotiators last week in an all-out effort to avoid a strike in California's aerospace industry.

The threatened strike, called for the following Monday, involved as many as 125,000 workers at 50 aircraft plants and missile sites, including Vandenberg AFB, Cape Canaveral also was affected.

The nation's top federal mediation official returned to Washington, D. C., Friday to report personally to President Kennedy on the status of negotiations. The mediator, William Simkin, also talked with Labor Secretary Arthur Goldberg, who earlier said he had no intention of permitting a strike to occur without expanding every effort.

Involved in the negotiations were the International Association of Machinists and the United Auto Workers, and North American Aircraft, Lockheed, Convair, Aerojet-General Corp., and Ryan.

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

Reservists: Four warships pushed through the early

morning haze on San Francisco Bay, bringing 400 reservists home from the cold war front. Some 10 months and 35,000 miles had elapsed since they were called to strengthen U.S. defense during the Berlin and Southeast Asia crises. These reservists served in the Pacific.

Wise-carver: Ellsworth (Sonny) Wise-carver, who gained fame as a teenager by eloping with a two older married woman, was back in the news again. He pleaded guilty to prowling and was handed a suspended 40-day sentence by a Sacramento judge. Wise-carver first came into the public eye at age 14 when he eloped to Denver, Colo., with Mrs. Elaine Monfredi, 22, of Los Angeles. Two years later he eloped again, this time with Mrs. Eleanor Reveny, 25, of Long Beach. The pair had left a Long Beach party to "get a hamburger" and turned up two days later in Oroville, 500 miles away. Wise-carver told Sacramento officers he had been happily married for the past 15 years and was working for a utility company.

Lane: Carol Lane, central

figure in reversal of Los Angeles' resorting law by the State Supreme Court, tried to kill herself by slashing her wrists. Los Angeles police said. The 23-year-old woman was found in her apartment. The injuries were estimated to be 12-24 hours old. The Supreme Court reversed a resorting conviction against Miss Lane on grounds the state had preempted the field of resorting.

Alcatraz: Alcatraz Prison Warden Olin D. Blackwell said two guards had been suspended for failing to prevent last month's escape of three inmates. He declined to identify the guards. They were suspended for 20 days, beginning in August. The convicts who escaped were John William Clance, 32, and his brother, Clarence, 31, both of Montgomery, Ala., and Frank Lee Morris, 35, New Orleans. Authorities say the inmates may have drowned.

Dancer: Strip-teaser Gigi Martino's conviction on an obscene dancing charge was reversed by the State Supreme Court. She was sentenced to 30 days in jail under a Los Angeles ordinance which the Supreme Court said preempted state law.

Graham: Evangelist Billy Graham conducted an eight-day crusade in Fresno before packed houses. He told listeners that man is as sinful today as he was 2,000 years ago when Jesus Christ went to the cross. He said the idea of the world being saved by the crucifixion of Christ was considered foolishness in Christ's day—and still is foolish to the average person. On another night he called for repentance, faith and obedience to God as the solution for world problems.

Railroad: Interstate Commerce Commission Examiner Thomas Patrick conducted a three-day hearing in San Francisco on the future of the Feather River Railway. When the Oroville dam and reservoir are built as part of the giant California water project, the reservoir will flood six miles of the railroad's 18 miles of track. The railroad contends the line in a public necessity and asks that the state replace the six miles. The state opposes the request.

Yacht: A young crewman on a luxury yacht was swept overboard and presumed drowned in rough seas off Fort Ross. The death of the crewman, Richard Steele, 18, of Newport Beach, came to light when the \$275,000 power ketch Holiday was towed into Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco by the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard said there was no evidence of foul play. Two other persons aboard were saved, along with the yacht.

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Summer Reading Club Ends at Party

The summer reading club, "Around the World with Books," closed last week with a party for boys and girls who had read 16 books and qualified for certificates.

More than 100 children attended. Roy Gilbertson, chairman of the library board, presented the certificates.

After the presentation of certificates, the children were given Dixie Cups furnished by Jorgensen's Dairy.

Staff members were assisted in planning and conducting the party by Mrs. M. W. Perkins, Mrs. J. E. Russell, and Mrs. Leland Rogers of the Friends of the Library.

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