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LITTLE HOPE FOR DUCK SHOOTERS

But Mr. Small Urges Currituckians to Send Delegation to Washington

Congressman John H. Small, who is in Elizabeth City this week, holds out little hope for the people of Currituck and other coastal counties who want an amendment to the migratory game law, to permit the sale of such game as may be killed in compliance with the act. As the law now stands, one may kill eight geese or 25 ducks in a day, but these can not be offered for sale. Mr. Small has gone into the question with attorney A. M. Simmons, of Currituck, who represents the game hunters. Mr. Small letter to Mr. Simmons and Mr. Simmons' letter from the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, will interest game hunters generally. The letter of Mr. Small to Mr. Simmons follows:—

You will recall our conversation when I was last in Currituck on September 13th, regarding the Migratory Game Law, at which time you stated that a number of our good people in Currituck were opposed to some features of the law, and particularly the provision which prohibited the sale of wild duck by those who lawfully kill the same during the open season. I was impressed by your statement and promised you I would investigate the matter.

The Migratory Game Law as administered by the Biological Survey of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, of which E. W. Nelson is chief, and C. W. Henderson is assistant. Mr. Nelson has been absent in the West for more than a month and not wishing to wait longer I entered into correspondence and had a long conference with Mr. Henderson. At this conference I protested against the regulations which prevented the sale of duck, and stated that I would wish a delegation from Currituck county to be heard with a view to having the regulations modified. I enclose herewith copy of a letter from the Bureau, through Mr. Henderson, to which I invite your careful reading.

I recently forwarded to you a copy of the game laws for States for 1919, which also contains a copy of the Treaty with Canada for the protection of migratory birds, and also a copy of the law made in pursuance of such Treaty, and also a copy of the regulations. You will note that the law under section 2 forbids the sale of ducks, except in so far as such sale may be permitted



Why Women Visit the District Fair, Elizabeth City, N. C.

under regulations authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture and approved by the President. The regulations in force only permit the sale for propagating purposes. Before the sale of ducks or other migratory birds would be permissible the present regulations must be amended by the Secretary of Agriculture and approved by the President. In actual practice such proposed amendment would first be considered by the Chief of the Biological Survey, who would make a recommendation favorable or unfavorable to the Secretary.

I can very well understand the desire of the people of Currituck and other sections contiguous to Currituck Sound who do not hunt duck to buy a reasonable quantity for table use, and I am disposed to do all in my power to have the regulations amended. I believe it would be advisable for a delegation from Currituck County, after making an appointment, to have a hearing upon this proposition. If such hearing is desired, I shall be glad to arrange for same at any mutually convenient date.

I may add that upon investigation I was surprised to find that at least thirty-six of the states by their own laws absolutely prohibit the sale of migratory game, and they may not be sold in such states even if Congress had not passed the migratory game law in question.

I beg you will give publicity to this letter and the enclosure among the good people of Currituck, in order that they may understand the situation.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) JNO. H. SMALL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Biological Survey
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 25th, 1919
Honorable John H. Small,
House of Representatives,
Dear Mr. Small:—

Reference is made to our recent conference in regard to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, at which you stated that some of your constituents in the vicinity of Currituck Sound feel rather aggrieved that they are no longer able to purchase wild ducks for their table. You urged that the regulations be changed so

as to permit, at least to some extent the sale of migratory wild fowl among the people of the state in which such birds are killed. In this connection you ask that the Bureau arrange to give your constituents a hearing on the question so they may have the opportunity of presenting their views.

As you will note from an examination of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Regulations, the sale of wild fowl is prohibited throughout the United States. No regulation has been made which permits the sale of any migratory birds protected by the treaty, except for scientific and propagation purposes. The sale of migratory game birds is not permitted by the regulations because the Department feels that with a market for wild fowl many more birds would be killed and violations of the law would occur which the Department would be powerless to prevent. It was our judgment that the result of the sale of wild fowl in this country would become a thing of the past. Moreover, in prohibiting the sale of migratory game birds the Federal Government is merely following in the footsteps of the great majority of the States of the Union. There are only a few States where wild fowl could legally be sold even if there were no Federal law on the subject. The sale of all game birds is prohibited in the following thirty-six states:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, New York, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, North Dakota.

Most of the other states have some statutes limiting the sale of game, although the restrictions do not apply to all game birds. There seems to be no question but that the general sentiment of the country is overwhelmingly opposed to the sale of game.

The Bureau would, however, be very glad on any convenient day that you may select to hear anything further that either you or your constituents may have to say on the subject.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. C. HENDERSON
Acting Chief of Bureau.

J. PAUL SPENCE MAKING GOOD IN CRACKER STATE

The many friends of Prof. J. Paul Spence of this city will learn with interest that he is making good as superintendent of city schools, of Elberton, Ga. Prof. Spence was badly broken in health when he left Elizabeth City last summer, but he is, evidently, recovering his old time vigor. The Elberton, Ga. Star speaks of an address delivered at the First Methodist Church in that city by Prof. Spence last Sunday, as "One of the best addresses delivered to an Elberton audience in many and many a day."

LOW FARES FOR FAIR

The U. S. Rail Road Administration has advised the Norfolk Southern R. R. to sell a special rate ticket from all points to Elizabeth City on account of the Fair, Nov. 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. Particulars will be found in an advertisement elsewhere in this newspaper. Additional coaches will be provided on local trains for the accommodation of the increased traffic expected during Fair week.

LOOKS LIKE EMANCIPATION OF THE SOUTHERN NEGRO

Many colored women in northeastern North Carolina are making \$3 a day in the cotton fields this fall and this newspaper gets reports from farmers who have colored women earning as high as \$3.50 a day. If this isn't the emancipation of the Negro, what is it?

Lacemaking in China. Foreign missionaries in Chefoo, Shanghai, Foochow, Amoy and Swatow have introduced lacemaking among the Chinese women, and considerable lace has been exported from time to time. Silk, linen and cotton thread is used in Chefoo, and linen and cotton in the other places. The lace is made more cheaply than is possible elsewhere because of the low wages paid in China, but a lack of enterprise in changing patterns to meet changing tastes and fashions abroad prevents the industry from assuming larger proportions.



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