

the California bighorn. This species, formerly present throughout the southern interior of British Columbia is now restricted in separate herds—the Chilcotin-Riske group, the Ashnola group, the Vaseaux Lake group in the Okanagan and some other groups associated in the same general area which total approximately 1,200 animals.

The wood bison naturally comes to mind when we speak of endangered species. There is also the northern kit fox. This species, once common on the great central plains of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, is now found only in southern Alberta and southern Saskatchewan. Then there is the Vancouver Island wolf, the northern Rocky Mountain cougar, the eastern cougar, the blue bear or glacier bear and a number of brown bear groups which may disappear if we are not careful in the management of our wildlife.

There is the barren-ground grizzly, the Lillooet grizzly, and the big plains grizzly. This animal is another species of wildlife which is reported to be endangered. Another example is the black-footed ferret. This interesting species was once common in southern Alberta and southern Saskatchewan and was generally associated with prairie dog colonies. A predator of the prairie dog, the ferret, was reduced in numbers as a result of poisoning campaigns to reduce the number of prairie dogs which interfered with ranching operations and cultivation. There are very few records of any black-footed ferrets being sighted and the animal may be more common in the United States than in Canada. If so, rehabilitation is a possibility.

• (5:40 p.m.)

The Newfoundland pine marten is another endangered species on the list, as is the black-tailed prairie dog. And unfortunately in connection with this list we must mention those species which have disappeared altogether from the Canadian wildlife scene. These are the Queen Charlotte Islands caribou, the great plains wolf and the Newfoundland wolf. There are also many species peripheral to Canada which are in danger of extinction if man is not careful.

I referred a few moments ago to federal-provincial jurisdiction and I would like to return to that subject. Federal authority in the management of terrestrial wildlife, birds and mammals, is restricted at the present time to migratory birds as defined by the Migratory Birds Convention of 1916 with the United States, and to all forms of wildlife found in national parks. Responsibility for all other forms of terrestrial wildlife is vested with the provincial or territorial governments. This includes upland game birds such as grouse and pheasants, all fur bearers and big game animals such as deer, moose and caribou.

The management of migratory game birds is carried out under close federal-provincial co-operation and co-ordination. The principal mechanism is through a federal-provincial wildlife conference held annually in mid-July. All regulations relating to upcoming hunting seasons are reviewed at that meeting of chief provincial

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and territorial game officers and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Enforcement of the subsequent regulations is also a co-operative venture wherein all provincial conservation officers hold cross appointments as ex officio game officers under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. In addition to the major federal-provincial conference, provincial subcommittees have been established to discuss non-policy technical matters and provide a forum for briefing senior provincial and federal officers.

This will be the extent of my contribution to this debate, Mr. Speaker. I see a lot of merit in the motion which is before the House and certainly I would not object to the establishment of a committee to deal with this matter. I am sure that the discussions which would take place in such a committee would enlighten not only Members of Parliament but the Canadian public generally as to humane practices in dealing with animals, as well as to our conservation efforts in the area of wildlife.

Mr. D. W. Groos (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I did not realize that this motion would come before the House quite so soon, so I am somewhat unprepared. But I would begin by saying that the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Winch) and I many times have things in common, and this is one of them. I support him strongly on this motion which covers in part a matter which is close to the hearts of a number of people in this chamber, including the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis). I wish I could have been here to support her motion when it was put before the House but, as second best, I am glad to do so in the case of this motion proposed by the hon. member for Vancouver East.

I have been reading the debates, Mr. Speaker, particularly the one on the hon. member's motion when it was first presented on October 26. I am a little surprised and would like to make a correction for a situation which appears to have arisen in that in the various comments that were made at that time, no mention was made of an organization which I think is a valuable one which operates out of Vancouver and is called the Council for Laboratory Animals.

As you will notice, Mr. Speaker, the motion is in five parts, (a) (b), (c), (d) and (e). I will restrict myself to commenting on the first part of the motion which has to do with "the use of animals for medical research purposes, their care and utilization, and procedures for government licensing and inspection of, and control over, all premises using animals for laboratory research or medical training." What we are faced with here is a very natural conflict which arises within all our minds, namely, the conflict of the requirements for legitimate research involving experimentation on animals and our very natural concern for animal welfare that this research be carried on in as humane a way as possible and that no unnecessary pain be caused the animals which in some cases are giving their lives so that we can live better lives.

Just to point this up, Mr. Speaker, I would first like to put on record a remark made by Sir Graham Wilson, who was former director of Britain's public health laboratory, in testimony before a United States House of Representa-