

to be as accessible as possible to where he lives. And most of these people, although they might prefer to live in the great outdoors, actually are trapped in our urban areas.

"One of the attractions of life in North America, as opposed to life in Europe say, has been access to hunting and fishing for millions of ordinary people - recreations reserved to only a select few in many other developed areas. We have nurtured a vast horde of ardent, sometimes eccentric, but always keen sportsmen and naturalists.

A NOVEL CENSUS

"Canada's first national survey of hunters and fishermen, now being conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at my request, will soon reveal the size of the horde. There is every indication that it numbers well over one million people.

"We have happily inherited and maintained wildlife as a public resource. Our historical hope has been that the public wildlife should be accessible to the public no matter if produced on private or public lands.

"We have got to pay a price in the wildlife field for higher and higher human populations and the resultant higher and higher populations of sportsmen and pressures on wildlife. We need an increasing wildlife production to provide the increasing harvest demanded.

"Wildlife is a crop and, if we are to produce it in more abundance, we must produce it in greater volumes on both public and private lands. Private land holding is part of our way of life. Much of our best and most accessible land, and accordingly some of our best wildlife habitat, in our best climatic areas, is in private hands.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS

"Because of the trends in agricultural land-use adjustment that I mentioned earlier, we can arrange to put more lands in public ownership in our rural areas than in the past. This public ownership can plan for multiple uses of the lands for forestry, grassland, recreation and wildlife, and can provide for access by the public to these lands. This could fill part of the demand for increasing the areas of wildlife habitat accessible to our sportsmen.

"Nevertheless a great deal of our best habitat will remain in private holdings, the primary use of which will be to supply an income to the individual that owns and manages them. Therefore, I believe it follows that if our goal is the maximum production of wildlife, and even though the conception bothers us a bit and goes against the 'grain' of our historical thinking, we must seriously consider programmes having the object of paying the farmer or landowner to produce the wildlife we want and to make it accessible to us. I don't see anything basically improper or undemocratic in this.

"We have thought about this in connection with the ARDA programme. We are interested in the more productive use of our lands, and wildlife production

is one of these uses. In addition, one of the basic purposes of the programme is to increase the income of rural people. Payments to farmers for easements to maintain wildlife habitat, to provide access to the wildlife produced, or to increase production of wildlife through habitat improvement on these lands, could fall within this thinking.

"The proposed pothole-leasing* or easement programme on the Prairies of which you have heard, and which is now being studied by both the Canadian Wildlife Service and ARDA, is one of these. My experience on the Prairies makes me optimistic that this approach to making some type of payment to farmers, to encourage them to maintain sloughs and adjacent waterfowl feeds crops, is sound. In fact, I think it may prove the only way to assure habitat maintenance and therefore continual large-scale waterfowl production in the Canadian 'duck factory'. It could produce happy results - the production of more ducks, and an increase of farm income, and could assist in the stabilizing of water levels in some prairie areas.

"I suspect that whatever sort of waterfowl management programme we work out for Canada, it is eventually going to cost the Canadian hunter a bit more than it does today. And I think he'll be glad to pay his share.

FARMERS VERSUS HUNTERS

"The kind of 'trench warfare' that has gone on at times in the past between farmers and hunters will not produce the results we want in this modern age. Let us admit that wildlife and hunters are often a nuisance to farmers, and that wildlife habitat is often a hindrance to efficient machine farming. The farmer holds, in most areas, the legal right both to destroy the habitat and exclude the hunter. But more of our farmers could become some of our best game managers, and many of them would like to - for they have a basic love of the land and wildlife. If we can tell them more about the general values of wildlife, as we have been trying to do, and, if in addition, we can hold out to them added income for their efforts (for, as we all know, a financial stimulus can be a strong one) much could be achieved...."

CANADA ACCEPTS COPYRIGHT PACT

The Department of External Affairs recently announced that Mr. L.V.J. Roy, Canadian Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Paris, had deposited with the Director-General of UNESCO Canada's Instrument of Ratification of the Universal Copyright Convention. The Convention will accordingly come into force for Canada three months from May 10, the date of deposit.

Canada signed the Universal Copyright Convention in 1952 but did not ratify it at that time. On March 1 the Senate approved a resolution to provide for ratification; this was followed by approval by the House of Commons on April 16, 1962.

*"Pothole": colloquial term for small, semi-permanent bodies of water left on Prairies by spring run-off.