

Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Though of not nearly so great importance as our treaty with Canada, we hope within a reasonable time to secure similar relations with Mexico. The wild fowl supply has certainly increased tremendously in the last few years, and I say this, despite the fact that, on our side of the line, the shooting season just past was, in many parts of our country, the poorest we have had in forty years. This was due, of course, to the unusual mildness of the weather. It indicates that, under normal conditions, we will have a very fine season next year.

In general, the States are looking much more closely than ever before to maintaining their supplies of localized game. A business-like feature towards this end which is receiving much attention with us is the game census. In many states, the new hunting licenses require, in addition to the usual facts, a report of all game and fur-bearing animals and vermin taken during the previous year. The killing of vermin is encouraged. This is being supplemented by estimates of the game animals and game birds at large in the covers. It is a business proposition, this inventorying of resources, and it furnishes a business basis for new regulations. I look to see the system greatly perfected in the United States and Canada during the next few years.

Then, too, we are doing a tremendous work in the United States in propagating game, chiefly deer and pheasants, to stock depleted sections. The States, in the aggregate, are spending a good many hundreds of thousands of dollars in this way for the benefit of the sportsmen. Looking to the day when wild fur-bearing animals will be less numerous than at present, the United States Government, under the direction of Dr. Nelson's department, has established an experimental fur farm in Northern New York.