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beaver in 1930, contains many thousands of the hard-working creatures -- a population too large to be treated with indifference by park officers. Even in densely-populated urban areas beavers flourish. Within a short drive of Canada's capital, there are so many beaver that several farmers make a respectable part-time income from trapping them for their pelts.

This ability of wildlife to recover quickly from losses and exploitation creates other problems for wildlife officers. Because most wild species are not easily observed, they can multiply rapidly before their increase is detected. This necessitates careful and frequent inventories. Inventories must be repeated frequently in case significant population changes pass unnoted.

Research is, of course, basic to any improvement in wildlife management. One relatively neglected area is the pathology and diseases of wildlife. Another is the effect of chemical-control agents such as insecticides. CWS investigators have found that fish-eating birds and raptors such as falcons are unable to reproduce adequately when certain persistent insecticides have been introduced into their environment; insecticides are also known to have adverse effects on fish reproduction. The responsibility for increased research will be that of the wildlife biologists; this handful of scientific investigators and advisers will have to be strengthened and given more public backing if they are to provide the sound factual basis for improved wildlife management programs.

The report *National Wildlife Policy and Program*, tabled in 1966 in the House of Commons, was intended to translate national concern about wildlife into guidelines for co-ordinated action by federal and provincial agencies and to meet the needs expressed by conservationists and wildlife officials throughout the country. From this program evolved the Canada Wildlife Act, passed by Parliament in 1973. The new act provided the Federal Government and the Canadian Wildlife Service with a broader legislative basis for implementing programs outlined in the policy.

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