

# ROD AND GUN IN CANADA

DEVOTED  
TO  
THE  
FISHING  
AND  
GAME  
INTERESTS  
OF  
CANADA.

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### The Influence of the Press in Game Protection.

The printed proceedings of the first meeting of the North American Fish and Game Protective Association have reached us. In them we find an excellent resolution with an accompanying circular to the newspapers, reading as follows:—

"THE NORTH AMERICAN FISH AND GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

"To the Press:

"Gentlemen:—

"Giving effect to the following resolution, we solicit your hearty co-operation, feeling assured that not only will your assistance materially help forward a word of real urgency and public interest and of general benefit to the community at large, in the states and provinces here represented, but redound to your credit as a public institution:

"Whereas the daily and weekly press wields great influence and is the best means for reaching and informing the general public on matters of current interest, and

"Whereas it is extremely desirable to create a universal sentiment in favor of the enforcement of Game and Fish Laws, to disseminate correct informa-

tion respecting the value of Fish and Game resources as a means of attracting non-residents and consequent large disbursements of money among the people, much of it in the wilder and poorer sections where its receipt is of the greatest value, therefore, be it

"Resolved that a copy of this preamble and resolution, to be followed as soon as issued by the proceedings of this convention, be sent to every newspaper in the states and provinces here represented and to the associated Press, and that they be requested to give the subject of fish and game interests such editorial and other notice from time to time as its great importance warrants.

"Chairman, Hon. S. N. Parent, Quebec, P. Q.

"1st Vice-President, G. W. Titcomb, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

"2nd Vice-President, S. T. Bastedo, Toronto, Ont.

"3rd Vice-President, John Fottler, Jr., Boston, Mass.

"4th Vice-President, Hon. A. T. Dunn, Fredericton, N. B.

"5th Vice-President, Chas. E. Oak, Caribou, Me.

"6th Vice-President, C. H. Wilson, Gilens Falls, N. Y.

"Secretary, L. Z. Jonas, Quebec, P. Q.

"Assistant-Secretaries, D. G. Smith, Chatham, N. B., Rene Dupont, Quebec, P. Q."

The preamble correctly refers to the great influence of the daily and weekly press, which can do so much in creating a strong healthy public sentiment in favor of the enforcement of fish and game protection laws, and without which such legislation must always remain inoperative, for it is almost needless to remark that where public opinion is against or indifferent to any law that it will be difficult to enforce it. The daily and weekly press which reaches all classes can also do much to show the community generally the value in dollars and cents of provincial game assets administered in a business-like manner, and as an example of such wise administration can point to Maine, which, as we have said before, with an area of wild lands of 23,000 square miles, less than the county of

Pontiac in this province, attracts annually thousands of sportsmen who disburse millions of dollars in Maine, and surely any good means which serves to attract non-residents and their money is worth protecting and looking after. Canada is essentially the summer and autumn outing portion of North America, and every feature of its manifold attractions should receive proper attention.

But while suggesting to the press the general means whereby it may assist this excellent work, it is equally necessary for those specially interested in fish and game matters and conversant with the wrongs that need righting to persistently furnish and fully acquaint the press from time to time with the facts for publication. We feel sure that this information would in nearly every case be welcomed and used judiciously and with excellent results. Seek to make as many as possible of our editorial friends interested in fish and game protection and they will do an amount of good work for the cause that will surprise you.

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An excellent idea is the set of rules for members of the Cameron Island Club of Walkerville, Ont., which are as follows, viz:—

Inasmuch as the yearly hunting trip is undertaken in search of health and pleasure, and the killing of deer is not so essential as to warrant placing human lives in jeopardy, through excessive anxiety to obtain the legal complement, it seems well to formulate rules for the better protection of the members of the party.

With this end in view it has been thought wise to suggest:

1. That no rifles be loaded until the members of the party have crossed the river and are about to enter the woods.

2. That all rifles be emptied of their contents before entering the boat to be ferried to the island upon returning from the hunt.

3. That no one discharge his rifle at a moving object in the woods, or elsewhere, UNTIL HE BE CONVINCED THAT