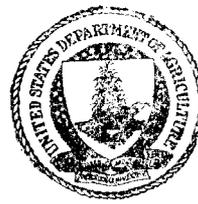




U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Press Service



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BIRD LIFE SHOWN IN REFUGES
MAINTAINED BY GOVERNMENT

Bird lovers will be interested in two motion pictures produced by the United States Department of Agriculture. One of these shows the "National Bird Refuges on the Gulf of Mexico". It starts with the reservation patrol boat, which takes the visitors from Pass Christian to the low-lying islands off the Louisiana coast.

At the outset attention is drawn to the Federal regulations administered by the Biological Survey, against disturbing the birds or their eggs in the national refuges. Pictures of the flocks in flight are then shown, together with nesting scenes of many of the interesting species of birds found in that locality. These include the pelican, the willett, laughing gulls, black skimmers, least terns, old and young Louisiana herons, and royal terns.

The other picture is entitled "Anne's Aigrette". It was also taken by the department's cinematographers in cooperation with the Biological Survey, and shows interesting pictures of the American egrets, snowy herons and other birds on the Walker Lake Reservation in Arkansas. The picture is so arranged as to demonstrate the inhumanity of the traffic in the plumage of these birds for the purpose of personal adornment. Anne shows her new hat to her husband, who notices the plume on it, explains that it is an aigrette-- the nuptial plume of the egret. He tells her how these birds have been almost exterminated through the work of plume hunters. He then describes his visit to a Federal bird refuge and the egrets he saw there. The scenes shift to a great cypress swamp in Arkansas. After the explanation Anne decides she will not wear the plume.

These pictures are both short, one reel each. They may be borrowed by those entitled to the use of department films. Arrangements may also be made for their purchase by Audubon societies, schools, churches, or individuals, from the United States Department of Agriculture, at approximately the cost of making them, \$37 a reel.

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