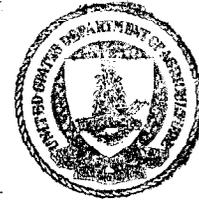


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Information

Press Service



Release - Immediate.

October 8, 1926.

NEW BULLETIN ON FUR LAWS ISSUED

"Fur animals need proper protection, if their numbers are to be maintained and good fur is to continue to be produced," according to Frank G. Ashbrook and Frank L. Earnshaw, of the Biological Survey, in Farmers' Bulletin 1515-F, Fur Laws for the Season 1926-27, which has just been published by the United States Department of Agriculture. "The value of the annual catch of fur-bearing animals 25 years^{ago} was roughly estimated at \$25,000,000. To-day it is estimated at more than \$60,000,000, and even this figure would doubtless have been exceeded if the supply had been maintained. Serious students of conservation feel that the fur resources are not being given deserved attention, particularly in the face of this monetary showing.

"The principal fur bearers in the United States are the muskrat, skunk, raccoon, opossum, mink, marten, fox, otter, fisher, and beaver. The most valuable from the standpoint of financial returns from the annual catch are the four heading this list, although the pelts of some of the others have a higher individual value."

The new bulletin contains a complete summary of all the laws in the various States and Canadian Provinces relating to fur animals effective for the coming trapping season. Regulations affecting the interstate shipment of pelts are explained, and the legislation enacted during the year is reviewed, with all important changes noted. The information is published to encourage effective action on the part of trappers, fur tradesmen, legislative committees, conservation societies, and others concerned in maintaining the stocks of fur animals, and thus the fur supply.

The bulletin may be obtained, while the supply lasts, by addressing the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

#

241-27