



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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GAME-LAW VIOLATORS GET HEAVY PENALTIES

Several recent convictions for violations of the migratory-bird treaty act have resulted in substantial fines and jail sentences that should serve as deterrents against such violations, at least in localities in which imposed, according to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, which administers this law.

Charged with killing wild ducks from a motor boat on the St. Francis River in Missouri on November 22 and 26, 1926, two residents of that State were recently found guilty in Federal court at Cape Girardeau, Mo. Judge Faris imposed against each a fine of \$500, the maximum amount prescribed for a violation of the Federal game law, in addition to costs of \$63.26.

Two other cases were terminated in the Police Court of the District of Columbia early in April, Judge Mattingly presiding. Both the defendants, one a fish and game dealer and the other a produce dealer in a local market, were charged with selling a number of wild ducks. The accused entered pleas of guilty and paid fines of \$300 each, together with costs.

Four persons from the Reelfoot Lake section of Tennessee, charged with selling wild ducks, were arraigned before Judge Anderson in Federal court at Jackson, Tenn., late in March. One offender was fined \$25, two \$75 each, and the fourth received a sentence of 40 days in jail. At about the same time another duck seller from the same district was likewise fined \$75. In these cases the judge issued a warning that future violations of a like character in his district would result in jail sentences.